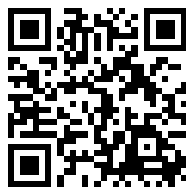

This is a reproduction of a library book that was digitized by Google as part of an ongoing effort to preserve the information in books and make it universally accessible.

GoogleTM books

<https://books.google.com>



THE LIBRARY



CLASS 325.42
BOOK G792c

187
Gt Brit. Colonial Office

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.



No. 855.—884

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 802.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1915.



PRINTED IN CEYLON.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 7622/46] Price 3½d.

Dep. 3 of 6.
L. 1

Digitized by Google

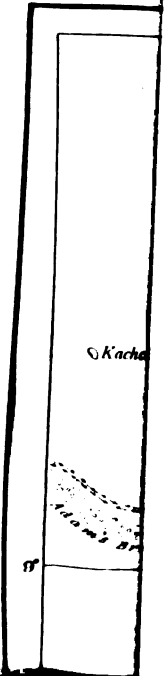
CONTENTS.

Map of Ceylon.

	PAGE
I.—General	1
II.—Financial	3
III.—Agriculture and Industries	4
IV.—Trade	6
V.—Shipping	13
VI.—Legislation	14
VII.—Education	15
VIII.—Government Institutions	16
IX.—Crime	17
X.—Vital Statistics	18
XI.—Postal Service	20
XII.—Public Works	21
XIII.—Colombo Port Commission	23
XIV.—Excise	24

962504

DEC 27 '40



REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK FOR 1914.

I.—GENERAL.

IMPORTANT EVENTS.

APART from the outbreak of war in August and its effect on the Colony, the following are the principal events which occurred during 1914 :—

In the early part of the year plague made its appearance in Colombo for the first time. The infection spread throughout Colombo, but though imported cases occurred in Jaffna and Kurunegala, no other place became infected. The disease did not become epidemic, the greatest number of cases in one month being 71 in March.

The railways and ferry service connecting Ceylon with India by way of Mannar and Dhanushkodi were formally opened on February 24.

In April an administrative change of importance was introduced by the appointment of a Consultative Committee on Roads.

The foundation stone of the King Edward VII. Memorial, which is to take the form of an Anti-Tuberculosis Institution, was laid in June.

The Commission which was appointed to report on the affairs of the Colombo Municipality concluded its sittings in September.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

Sir Alfred Lascelles, K.C., Chief Justice, retired in August, 1914, and was succeeded by Mr. A. Wood Renton, Senior Puisne Justice.

Mr. W. S. Shaw, Chief Justice, British Honduras, was appointed Third Puisne Justice.

Mr. G. S. Saxton, Government Agent, Central Province, retired from the Public Service in December.

Mr. A. R. Slater of the Civil Service and Mr. D. MacGregor, Colonial Auditor, were appointed to posts in other Colonies, the former as Colonial Secretary of the Gold Coast and the latter as Treasurer of Nigeria.

Dr. A. Castellani, Director of the Bacteriological Institute, retired from the Public Service to take up the appointment of Regius Professor of Tropical Medicine at the University of Naples.

Mr. H. L. Dowbiggin, Superintendent of Police, was appointed Inspector-General of Police in succession to the late Mr. Ivor E. David.

Mr. R. E. Stubbs, Colonial Secretary, received the honour of Companionship of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, and Mr. Hector van Cuylenburg, Burgher Member of the Legislative Council, received the honour of Knighthood.

The deaths of Mr. E. R. Ayrton, Archæological Commissioner, and Mr. G. M. Clark, Irrigation Engineer, who were drowned while boating on Tissamaharama tank, of Mr. J. N. Tisseverasinghe, Second Tamil Member of the Legislative Council, of Mr. W. E. Thorpe, Government Agent of the Eastern Province, and Mr. J. O'K. Murty, District Judge of Jaffna, are recorded with regret.

THE EFFECT OF THE WAR ON CEYLON.

The outbreak of war with Germany and Austria in August and the subsequent breach of relations with Turkey served to emphasize the unquestioned loyalty of the permanent population of the Colony. The latter event in particular

evoked from the Muhammadan community striking and unanimous manifestations of their adherence to the Throne. Hardly less noteworthy was the absence of any symptoms of panic, and it is gratifying to be able to record that, in spite of some unavoidable disturbance to the continuity of certain industries, there has been a remarkable lack of distress arising from unemployment.

The effects of the war on the finances and the trade of the Colony are dealt with in other sections of this report, and it will be sufficient here to note briefly such local incidents of importance as occurred in consequence of the war.

A Prize Court was established shortly after the commencement of the war and dealt with the enemy merchant ships—seven in number—which were captured or detained in Colombo Harbour. One of these ships was sold locally after condemnation, another was used to convey local produce to the United Kingdom, and the remainder were handed over to the Indian Government.

The crews of the captured ships were detained as prisoners of war at Ragama. After a short time they were removed to Diyatalawa, where they were interned, together with Ceylon residents of enemy nationality, in the camp which was originally constructed for the detention of prisoners sent to Ceylon during the Boer war.

Their number has been increased by the addition of enemy subjects captured on vessels calling at Colombo, and also of wounded prisoners taken by H. M. A. S. "Sydney" after her engagement with the "Emden."

A company of the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps after training at Diyatalawa left for Europe in November. War with Turkey broke out while they were on their way, and the company disembarked at Port Said and remained in Egypt, where they were attached to the New Zealand Forces. A number of the rank and file received commissions in other units.

Excellent work was done by the principal Ceylonese Corps, the Ceylon Light Infantry. Several companies were mobilized soon after the commencement of the war, and performed the important duties of guarding bridges and other points of strategic importance.

The Ceylon Artillery Volunteers and the Ceylon Engineer Volunteers were also mobilized, and assisted in their respective capacities in manning the defences of Colombo, the latter Corps being employed on the searchlights in the vicinity of the harbour.

A Town Guard was formed for the defence of Colombo, and nearly all the European residents of Colombo who were not already members of the existing Volunteer Forces were enrolled in this Corps.

THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

In spite of the effects of the war on prices and employment the year under review was, on the whole, a prosperous one. There were no serious floods, and, with the exception of plague in Colombo and one or two small outbreaks of smallpox, no serious epidemics.

The condition and health of the villager throughout the Island are being materially improved, as a result of the increased attention paid to sanitation and of the spread of medical facilities. Most striking results were obtained from the new treatment of "parangi," a disease which until recently was believed to be ineradicable.

Paddy crops were in the main satisfactory, and the other principal agricultural products of the Island—tea, rubber, coconuts, cocoa, and cinnamon—continued to flourish.

The general prosperity of the Island was reflected in the steady demand for Crown land.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Owing to the decision that the financial year of the Colony should in future run from October 1 to September 30 instead of from July 1 to June 30, the period under review consists of fifteen months, viz., from July, 1913, to September, 1914.

REVENUE.

The revenue collected during this period amounted to Rs. 67,221,964, an excess of Rs. 5,351,963 over the estimate. The proportionate revenue for twelve months exceeds the revenue for the preceding year by Rs. 2,605,035.

The sources of revenue which contributed principally to this increase were the Customs, the Government Railway, and Excise and other Licenses.

In the last two months of the financial period there was a marked decrease in the revenue under the first two of these heads, owing to the outbreak of war and the consequent temporary disturbance to trade.

The average annual increase in the revenue since 1908 is between 3½ million and 4 million rupees, and it is probable that this average would have been maintained but for the outbreak of war.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for 1913-14 was estimated at Rs. 73,203,454, and the amount actually expended was Rs. 69,367,397.

The proportionate expenditure for twelve months shows an increase of Rs. 7,822,989 over the expenditure of 1912-13. This was due mainly to the increased expenditure of the Public Works and Railway Departments and of the Port and Marine Department of Colombo.

Apart from ordinary expenditure, a sum of Rs. 6,897,951 was spent on Extraordinary Public Works chargeable to Loan Funds.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1914, were Rs. 40,615,386, and the liabilities Rs. 14,941,983. The assets consist largely of advances to local bodies, and in particular to the Municipality of Colombo, and the principal item among the liabilities is the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund.

PUBLIC DEBT.

At the close of the financial period the public debt of the Colony stood at £5,949,151, approximately one and two-third times the annual revenue.

Of the loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and railway and other public works, a sum of £1,500,000 was raised at 98½, bearing interest at 3½ per cent., in 1909-10, and a further sum of £1,000,000 at 99, bearing interest at 4 per cent., was raised in 1914. A balance (£128,653) of the latter loan has been carried forward to meet expenditure in 1914-15. Any excess thereon will be met from revenue till the remaining portion of the loan is raised.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1914, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 27,902,000, and the currency reserve on that date consisted of Rs. 3,682,500 in gold, Rs. 9,058,200 in silver, and Rs. 15,161,300 in British, Colonial, and Indian investments.

III.—AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

AGRICULTURE.

Agricultural industries suffered serious dislocation on the outbreak of war, but by the close of the year normal conditions had been for the most part restored.

Coconuts.—The price of copra, which had fallen to Rs. 30 per candy for a few parcels on the declaration of war, rapidly recovered and rose to Rs. 77 at the close of 1914, with the prospect of the market still further improving. Some of the largest local buyers were German firms, whose partners were interned as prisoners of war, and whose businesses were put in the hands of controllers; there has, however, been no lack of markets, and there is every prospect of new and important markets being opened by the war.

Coconut Fibre.—This industry, especially on the seaboard on the Western and Southern Provinces, has been seriously affected by the war, as the market was chiefly continental.

Tea.—Owing to shortage of rainfall in the early months of the year, causing considerable deficiency in some districts, the estimate for the year was not quite realized, though the output was slightly in excess of that of 1913. The reduction of labour on rubber estates has had the effect of a more plentiful supply being available for tea plantations, which have been maintained in a state of good cultivation. The large demands from Russia have helped to keep up prices, which have been maintained at a high level.

Rubber.—The outlook was uncertain during the latter part of the year, owing to the continental market being cut off and exports to America prohibited. The fears of a serious slump were not realized, and though standard crêpe fell in December to 1s. 11½d.—the lowest price touched during the year—this created no uneasiness. Reduction in cost of production has more than kept pace with reduction in price, while the standard of cultivation has improved.

Cocoa.—The crop was below that of 1913, and the quality below average on account of the unusually wet weather of October, November, and December, necessitating curing indoors and causing a considerable increase of canker. After the outbreak of war prices fell considerably, and lower grades became almost unsaleable. The market speedily recovered, and the year ended with prices slightly higher than those at the end of 1913.

Tobacco.—This industry has also been seriously affected by the war, especially in the Northern Province. A Government expert is at work endeavouring to establish better types suitable for the English market.

Co-operative Credit Societies.—Progress has been made with the movement in some parts of the Island, in spite of a considerable amount of local apathy to be overcome. There are now 50 registered societies.

THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society has a roll of 1,889 members—922 local and 967 foreign.

The organ of the Society is the “Tropical Agriculturist.”

The Society publishes two vernacular magazines, one in Sinhalese (Govikam Sangarawa) and the other in Tamil (Kamat Tholil Velakkam), and periodically issues special leaflets.

A stock of plants and seeds is available at cost price, to members only, at the beginning of each planting season.

Twelve instructors were employed during the year for service chiefly among native cultivators, and ten experimental and demonstration gardens were maintained in different parts of the Island.

SALE AND SETTLEMENT OF LAND.

The total extent of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance) was 27,471 acres. An area of 87,275 acres was settled under the Waste Lands Ordinance by the Land Settlement Department, as against 99,500 acres in 1913.

The decrease is due to the fact that the activities of the Department were curtailed by a number of its officers and those of the Survey Department being employed on special duty after the outbreak of the war.

CATTLE.

Rinderpest.—Outbreaks occurred in all Provinces except the Southern. The steady decrease of the last three years continued. The totals for the last four years are :—

Year.				Number of Cases.
1911	..	..	..	15,195
1912	..	..	..	9,103
1913	..	..	..	4,848
1914	..	..	..	3,835

Of the cases during 1914, 1,182 recovered, 2,298 died naturally, 352 were shot, and 3 remained on hand at the close of the year.

Foot-and-mouth Disease.—During 1914 this disease prevailed all over the Island. Cases 8,664, recoveries 8,305, deaths 79, shot 5, balance ill at the close of the year 275.

SALT.

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly, which is protected by the imposition of a duty on imported salt. Salt is sold to purchasers from all Government salt stores at Rs. 3 per cwt.; and the amount realized by its sale in 1914 was Rs. 1,582,178·89, as compared with Rs. 1,618,674·22 in 1913 and Rs. 1,522,542·73 in 1912.

The year was favourable for the production of salt, and a fairly large harvest was collected. No restriction was placed on the output, and the total yield for the Island amounted to 522,350 cwt., the best since 1910, when the total reached 759,396 cwt. The quantity secured in 1911 was 328,199 cwt., in 1912 it was 276,781 cwt., and in 1913 210,310 cwt.

PEARL FISHERY.

No pearl fishery was held in 1914, nor does there appear to be any prospect of a fishery in the near future. The last was held in 1907.

MINERAL SURVEY.

During the first five months of the year explorations of the high patana country and of the Kalu-ganga valley were carried on. Valuable information was obtained as to the source of the thoria minerals and corundum in the alluvial deposits of the Island, but no deposits of actual commercial value were discovered. The examination of the Kalu-ganga valley, with special reference to the occurrence of deep-lying alluvial deposits, was not completed before the end of the the dry season.

From June to December both officers of the Survey were on leave.

FORESTS.

Forest exploitation has been directed towards the elimination of over-mature timber, which retarded future generation of crops, and the utilization of timber on areas to be alienated for sale, lease, or irrigation purposes.

Public Departments have been supplied during 1914 with 1,257,860 cubic feet of timber approximately, the royalty value of which was Rs. 149,283, and cost Rs. 244,345.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has delivered 682,308 broad gauge and 223,969 narrow gauge sleepers to the Railway, the average cost of delivery to date being Rs. 3·64 per broad gauge and Re. 1·57 per narrow gauge sleeper. The Railway previously paid over Rs. 5 per broad gauge sleeper and Rs. 3·25 per narrow gauge sleeper for supplies of Jarrah, so that a considerable saving has been effected by the supply being obtained from the local forests, while the local sleepers are admittedly more durable than the imported ones.

MINING.

The plumbago industry suffered during 1914, first, from competition with Madagascar; and secondly, from the war, owing to prohibition of export to the American markets. The value of plumbago exported in 1914 was approximately 42 lakhs, as compared with 90 lakhs in 1913.

The gemming industry, which is principally carried on in Sabaragamuwa, also suffered from the effects of the war.

MANUFACTURES.

There is nothing of note to record with regard to the manufactures of Ceylon in 1914. They are for the most part confined to the preparation of agricultural products.

Weaving, lace-making, silver and brass work, and ivory-carving give employment to a few families, who have carried on these arts for generations and supply only local demands.

IV.—TRADE.

The total value of Ceylon trade in the year 1914, though falling short of that of 1913, showed an increase over that of previous years, as will be seen from the following table :—

Aggregate Value of Imports and Exports for the last Ten Years (omitting Specie, but including Coal exported for the use of Steamers).

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1905 ..	.. 2,240	1910 ..	.. 3,321
1906 ..	.. 2,363	1911 ..	.. 3,523
1907 ..	.. 2,631	1912 ..	.. 3,886
1908 ..	.. 2,648	1913 ..	.. 4,329
1909 ..	.. 2,853	1914 ..	.. 4,022

The Customs revenue collected in 1914 showed a decrease of Rs. 581,581 compared with 1913. Up to the end of August the revenue showed an advance of Rs. 913,673 over the corresponding period of 1913, when it declined rapidly during the months of September and October owing to the war, and more particularly to the presence of the "Emden" in the Indian Ocean and shortage of freight. There was a slight recovery during the last two months of the year, but it cannot be expected that the revenue will maintain its former level under present conditions.

The chief articles contributing to the revenue in 1914 were :—

	Rs.
Grain ..	.. 4,071,681
Spirits ..	.. 2,045,214
Kerosine Oil ..	.. 1,712,643
Sugar ..	.. 1,433,476
Cotton Goods ..	.. 499,917

The total trade of the Colony, excluding specie and coal exported for use of steamers, amounted to Rs. 390,681,395, a decrease of Rs. 28,378,645 below 1913.

The following table shows in detail the annual value of the trade of the Colony for the last ten years, excluding specie and value of coal exported for the use of steamers :—

Year.		Imports. Rs.		Exports. Rs.		Total. Rs.
1905	..	108,324,328	..	102,189,709	..	210,514,037
1906	..	112,789,269	..	109,711,644	..	222,500,913
1907	..	120,061,934	..	129,368,251	..	249,430,185
1908	..	122,420,393	..	128,962,156	..	251,382,549
1909	..	125,441,597	..	146,899,631	..	272,341,228
1910	..	150,195,648	..	166,471,607	..	316,667,255
1911	..	156,986,106	..	180,526,959	..	337,513,065
1912	..	175,322,979	..	198,954,902	..	374,277,881
1913	..	186,073,086	..	232,986,954	..	419,060,040
1914	..	172,317,549	..	218,363,846	..	390,681,395

The excess of exports over imports in recent years is due almost entirely to the influence of rubber. In 1906, the last year in which the value of imports exceeded the value of exports, the value of rubber exports was Rs. 1,527,539. In 1914 it was Rs. 57,220,155, exclusive of Straits and Indian rubber transhipped here to the value of 4½ millions of rupees.

Of the total exports in 1914, Rs. 210,711,403 represents the produce and manufacture of the Colony, and Rs. 7,652,443 represents British, foreign, and other colonial produce and manufacture.

The following table gives an analysis of the distribution of the trade of Ceylon among (1) the United Kingdom, (2) British Colonies, (3) Foreign Countries during the last three years, excluding imports of rubber, specie, and coal exported for the use of steamers :—

<i>Imports.</i>						
		1912.		1913.		1914.
From United Kingdom	..	29·6	..	30·1	..	29·5
From British Colonies	..	55·4	..	54·4	..	55
From Foreign Countries	..	15	..	15·5	..	15·5
<i>Exports.</i>						
To United Kingdom	..	49·1	..	45·3	..	52·9
To British Colonies	..	13·3	..	12·2	..	13·5
To Foreign Countries	..	37·6	..	42·5	..	33·6
<i>Total Trade.</i>						
With United Kingdom	..	40·1	..	38·7	..	42·8
With British Colonies	..	32·7	..	30·6	..	31·4
With Foreign Countries	..	27·2	..	30·7	..	25·8

These figures show a marked decrease in the percentage of the trade with foreign countries, due principally to Germany having dropped out of the market.

It is, however, significant that the proportion of imports from foreign countries has not been affected, probably owing to large German imports previous to the outbreak of war.

IMPORTS.

A comparison of the value of imports in 1913 and 1914 shows decreases under nearly all the important heads.

Confectionery.—The total imports were 1,052,870 lb., a decrease of 30 per cent.

Cement.—355,147 cwt. were imported in 1914, as against 439,426 cwt. in 1913. The United Kingdom sent in 1914 as much as in the previous year, but while 176,152 cwt. were imported from Germany in 1913, she was only able to supply 77,360 cwt. in 1914. Coal imports have decreased from 744,529 tons in 1913 to 598,957 tons in 1914. There was a drop in Indian and Japanese coal.

Cotton, manufactured and raw, shows a decrease from Rs. 14,013,451 in 1913 to Rs. 13,062,117 in 1914, due principally to smaller imports of dyed piece goods from British India. The value of imports from the United Kingdom shows a decrease of Rs. 117,370, from British Colonies of Rs. 983,894, but there was an increase of Rs. 149,930 from foreign countries.

Grain.—The quantity of rice cleared for home consumption was practically the same as that cleared during the previous year, the figures being: 1913. 7,530,723 cwt. ; 1914, 7,400,269 cwt.

Horses and Motor Cars.—The number of motor cars imported during the last six years is as follows :—

1909 ..	..	75	1912 ..	..	239
1910 ..	..	151	1913 ..	..	407
1911 ..	..	213	1914 ..	..	459

There was a corresponding decrease in the number of horses imported, the figures being as follows :—

Year.	No. of Horses imported.	Year.	No. of Horses imported.
1910 ..	.. 786	1913 ..	.. 246
1911 ..	.. 483	1914 ..	.. 332
1912 ..	.. 384		

(The large number imported in 1914 is only apparent, as 217 horses re-exported during the last four months of the year have to be deducted from the figures, the number re-exported under normal conditions being trifling.)

The increasing popularity of motoring is strikingly reflected in the imports of petrol. The figures since 1909 are—

Year.	Gallons.	Year.	Gallons.
1909 ..	.. 66,208	1912 ..	.. 216,714
1910 ..	.. 136,646	1913 ..	.. 383,442
1911 ..	.. 206,208	1914 ..	.. 701,082

Lamps.—The total number imported was 322,040, valued at Rs. 232,786. Austria and Germany together supplied about half the number, representing one-third of the total value. The average value entered at the Customs was highest for English lamps, and lowest for lamps made in Japan ; the latter consisting largely of small glass kitchen lamps costing 6 cents each.

Metals and Metalware.—The total value of imports was Rs. 7,837,819, a decrease of Rs. 3,207,367 below 1913. The most noticeable decreases were in hardware (10½ lakhs), galvanized iron (6½ lakhs), cast steel (5¾ lakhs), and steelware (4¾ lakhs). On the other hand, tea and pig lead alone showed a fair increase, due to activity in the tea trade.

Manure.—There was a decrease in manure imports from 80,600 tons in 1913 to 61,800 tons in 1914. The decrease under fish manure alone was 16,270 tons. The total imports in 1914 are the lowest since 1910. Supplies from Germany during the second half-year of 1914 fall short of the figures for the corresponding period of 1913 by 4,060 tons.

Spirits.—The total quantity cleared has fallen from 391,366 gallons in 1913 to 331,006 gallons in 1914. All kinds show decreases except brandy. The importation of arrack from India under the Governor's warrant has now ceased.

Sugar.—The imports of candy and refined sugar decreased from 527,378 cwt. in 1913 to 470,378 cwt. in the year under review. Java and Hong Kong, the two chief suppliers, sent 68 per cent. of the total, as against 87 per cent. in 1913. Mauritius took the third place in 1914 by supplying nearly 13 per cent. of the total.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The amounts cleared during the last three years are—

Year.	Cigars. lb.	Cigarettes. lb.	Manufactured Tobacco. lb.	Total. lb.
1912 ..	21,842	282,158	53,276	357,276
1913 ..	22,051	318,955	48,258	389,264
1914 ..	22,803	329,230	39,149	391,182

The duty on tobacco was considerably enhanced with effect from December 18, 1914.

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply.

The following table shows the changes in the relative positions of the various countries which export goods to Ceylon. The percentages are percentages of value :—

	1912.		1913.		1914.	
	Per Cent.	Position.	Per Cent.	Position.	Per Cent.	Position.
1. British India	45·81	1	40·83	1	35·93	
2. United Kingdom	28·76	2	29·19	2	28·58	
3. Straits Settlements	3·81	3	6·12	3	8·94	
4. Burma	2·37	5	3·82	4	6·11	
5. Germany	3·37	4	3·24	5	2·49	
6. Japan	2	6	2·21	6	1·71	
7. Java	1·86	7	1·75	7	1·5	
8. United States of America	1·11	10	1·28	8	1·33	
9. Maldiv Islands	1·29	8	1·19	9	1·21	
10. Siam	·48	18	·37	22	·1	
11. Persia	·00	30	·01	29	·88	
12. Holland	·92	11	·72	14	·85	
13. France	·74	12	·79	12	·83	
14. Belgium	·7	13	·93	10	·8	
15. Natal	·12	27	·73	13	·79	
16. Hong Kong	1·27	9	·91	11	·77	
17. Victoria	·51	15	·44	20	·76	
18. Austria	·49	17	·51	19	·6	
19. China (excluding Hong Kong)	·17	25	·38	21	·53	
20. Italy	·37	22	·54	17	·46	
21. India (excluding British)	·31	23	·34	23	·46	
22. Borneo (excluding British)	·63	14	·51	18	·46	
23. Western Australia	·39	21	·29	24	·39	
24. South Australia	·49	16	·56	16	·36	
25. Mauritius	·02	28	·06	28	·34	
26. Sweden	·16	26	·19	26	·23	
27. New South Wales	·21	24	·17	27	·23	
28. Switzerland	·4	20	·26	25	·22	
29. Tasmania	·01	29	·00	30	·18	
30. Russia in Asia	·47	19	·66	15	·15	

The United Kingdom has maintained her position as against foreign competitors.

India's position at the head of the table is by virtue of her enormous supplies of rice and other food stuffs for the native population. Her setback during the year was largely owing to a reduction in her export of rice, which has been met by a corresponding increase in the supplies from the Straits Settlements and Burma.

The figures for the Straits Settlements are somewhat fictitious, as they include the value of rubber which is brought here and speedily re-shipped.

EXPORTS.

Ceylon's chief export products in order of value are as follows :—

Lakhs of Rupees.				Lakhs of Rupees.			
		1913.	1914.			1913.	1914.
1. Tea	..	877	897	9. Cinnamon	..	24	16
2. Rubber	..	612	572	10. Citronella oil	..	16	13
3. Copra	..	209	232	11. Coir yarn	..	15	13
4. Coconut oil	..	167	134	12. Coir fibre	..	15	13
5. Desiccated				13. Tobacco	..	8	9
coconuts	..	78	78	14. Poonac	..	11	9
6. Plumbago	..	90	42	15. Coconuts	..	14	9
7. Cocoa	..	30	20	16. Cardamoms	..	9	7
8. Arecanuts	..	30	18				

Plumbago, arecanuts, coir fibre, coconuts, and cardamoms have receded, and desiccated coconuts, cocoa, coir yarn, and tobacco have advanced. Until 1911 the total value of the products of the coconut palm came next to that of tea, but thereafter rubber took the second place. Its value in 1914 was some 80 lakhs more than the value of the products of the palm for the same year.

Ceylon's best customers are given below :—

	1912.			1913.			1914.	
	Per Cent.			Per Cent.			Per Cent.	
United Kingdom	..	49·45	..	45·54	..	53·88		
United States of America	..	16·58	..	16·63	..	14·1		
Germany	..	7·08	..	10·11	..	5·48		
Russia in Europe	..	3·61	..	4·63	..	3·13		
Belgium	..	3·34	..	4·59	..	2·71		
New South Wales	..	2·28	..	2·24	..	2·56		
Victoria	..	2·11	..	2·14	..	2·46		
British India	..	2·86	..	2·39	..	2·07		
Canada	..	2·09	..	1·68	..	1·97		
New Zealand	..	1·24	..	1·11	..	1·57		
Russia in Asia	..	1·39	..	1·42	..	1·32		
China (exoluding Hong Kong)	..	1·49	..	1·7	..	1·31		
Denmark	..	·65	..	·26	..	1·2		
Austria	..	·83	..	·66	..	·85		
Holland	..	·25	..	·25	..	·71		
France	..	·41	..	·38	..	·54		
South Australia	..	·33	..	·34	..	·42		
Norway	..	·45	..	·57	..	·35		
Egypt	..	·3	..	·25	..	·33		
Japan	..	·18	..	·37	..	·31		
Natal	..	·3	..	·28	..	·29		
Queensland	..	·26	..	·22	..	·28		
Cape Colony	..	·26	..	·23	..	·27		
Straits Settlements	..	·3	..	·32	..	·26		
Spain (excluding Gibraltar)	..	·35	..	·22	..	·25		
West Australia	..	·2	..	·18	..	·21		
Philippines	..	·21	..	·17	..	·17		
Hong Kong	..	·05	..	·06	..	·16		
Italy	..	·13	..	·18	..	·1		
India (excluding British)	..	·12	..	·09	..	·08		
Newfoundland	..	·14	..	·06	..	·08		
Roumania..	..	—	..	·04	..	·07		
Sweden	..	·11	..	·09	..	·07		
Turkey in Asia	..	·06	..	·07	..	·07		

A striking feature in the table is the general increase in the percentages taken by the United Kingdom and her Colonies. Their combined takings rose from Rs. 127,866,155 in 1913 to Rs. 140,509,097 in 1914, an increase of Rs. 12,642,942, or about 10 per cent.

Tea.

Tea exports were the largest on record, and showed an increase of nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ million pounds over the previous record (1909). The increase over 1913 amounted to 2 million pounds, while the average price was also higher than in

that year. The figures for the last seven years are here shown in millions of pounds :—

	Millions of lb.		Millions of lb.
1908 ..	.. 180	1912 ..	.. 192
1909 ..	.. 192	1913 ..	.. 191
1910 ..	.. 182	1914 ..	.. 193
1911 ..	.. 186		

The following table shows the comparative distribution, 1913 and 1914 :—

Principal Markets for Ceylon Tea.

	1913. lb.	1914. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom ..	111,646,640 ..	115,888,689 ..	4,242,049 ..	—
British Colonies—				
British India ..	1,624,400 ..	2,062,129 ..	437,729 ..	—
Canada ..	7,624,464 ..	8,522,964 ..	898,500 ..	—
Cape Colony ..	832,729 ..	975,502 ..	142,773 ..	—
Hong Kong ..	186,081 ..	193,060 ..	6,979 ..	—
Malta ..	122,357 ..	100,222 ..	— ..	22,135
Mauritius ..	107,627 ..	104,787 ..	— ..	2,840
Natal ..	1,221,449 ..	1,241,785 ..	20,336 ..	—
Newfoundland ..	310,620 ..	349,744 ..	39,124 ..	—
New South Wales ..	9,823,133 ..	10,797,256 ..	974,123 ..	—
New Zealand ..	5,153,207 ..	6,679,761 ..	1,526,554 ..	—
Queensland ..	908,802 ..	1,087,632 ..	178,830 ..	—
South Australia ..	1,560,867 ..	1,782,070 ..	221,203 ..	—
Straits Settlements ..	504,200 ..	461,680 ..	— ..	42,520
Victoria ..	7,910,968 ..	7,972,142 ..	61,174 ..	—
Western Australia ..	786,294 ..	873,774 ..	87,480 ..	—
Other British Possessions	517,092 ..	414,973 ..	— ..	102,119
Total British Possessions	39,194,290	43,619,481	4,594,805	169,614
		Deduct Decrease ..	169,614	
		Nett Increase ..	4,425,191	
Foreign Countries—				
Austria ..	368,149 ..	223,109 ..	— ..	145,040
Belgium ..	104,711 ..	49,877 ..	— ..	54,834
China (excluding Hong Kong) ..	8,247,053 ..	5,862,619 ..	— ..	2,384,434
Egypt ..	578,264 ..	1,232,202 ..	653,938 ..	—
France ..	752,918 ..	928,118 ..	175,200 ..	—
Germany ..	631,677 ..	399,071 ..	— ..	232,606
Japan ..	56,135 ..	66,039 ..	9,904 ..	—
Mozambique ..	119,225 ..	201,446 ..	82,221 ..	—
Philippine Islands ..	61,182 ..	65,181 ..	3,999 ..	—
Russia in Asia ..	6,930,732 ..	5,983,696 ..	— ..	947,036
Russia in Europe ..	13,304,651 ..	7,925,794 ..	— ..	5,378,857
South America ..	54,159 ..	58,731 ..	4,572 ..	—
Sweden ..	123,676 ..	80,042 ..	— ..	43,634
Turkey in Asia ..	105,697 ..	79,072 ..	— ..	26,625
United States of America	8,896,386 ..	10,667,008 ..	1,770,622 ..	—
Other Foreign Countries	333,869 ..	253,417 ..	— ..	80,452
Total Foreign Countries	40,668,484	34,075,422	2,700,456	9,293,518
		Deduct Increase ..	2,700,456	
		Nett Decrease ..	6,593,062	
Grand Total ..	191,509,414	193,583,592	2,074,178	—

The very large diminution in the supplies taken by Russia in Europe was due to the Russian Volunteer Fleet having suspended its service between Colombo and Odessa owing to the war. China and Russia in Asia also show considerable decreases, but the end of the year saw a very large demand for teas for Russia *via* Vladivostock; exports to nearly every British Colony and the United Kingdom were appreciably larger than in the previous year.

Products of the Coconut Palm.

The exports under this head were valued at 491 lakhs, as against 514 lakhs in 1913. Of the three principal products, copra and desiccated coconuts show large increases, while coconut oil shows a decrease. The figures for the last six years are as follows :—

Year.		Desiccated Coconuts. Cwt.		Copra. Cwt.		Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1909	..	230,791	..	784,522	..	599,795
1910	..	242,286	..	758,711	..	619,680
1911	..	292,210	..	821,814	..	505,016
1912	..	278,806	..	614,089	..	401,779
1913	..	303,808	..	1,117,292	..	546,984
1914	..	311,864	..	1,411,947	..	486,286

The average price for coconut oil was Rs. 27·54 per cwt. The price for copra varied considerably during the year, the average entered value per cwt. being about Rs. 3 lower than in 1913.

Rubber.

The export of Ceylon rubber has increased in amount but declined in value. 226,491 cwt. valued at 61½ million rupees were exported during 1913, but while the exports amounted to 306,724 cwt. during 1914, their value was only 57½ million rupees.

The distribution of rubber among the two largest buyers for the past two years is—

		1913. Per Cent.		1914. Per Cent.
United Kingdom	..	55·38	..	62·9
United States of America	..	23·89	..	23·19

The following statement shows the growth in the amount of rubber exported :—

	Cwt.		Cwt.
1910 ..	.. 33,952	1913 ..	.. 226,491
1911 ..	.. 61,212	1914 ..	.. 306,724
1912 ..	.. 132,569		

Ten years ago the export for the year only amounted to 676 cwt.

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

All imports not specially rated or exempted by the tariff are liable to a Customs duty of 5½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

From December 18, 1914, all spirits other than perfumed and sweetened are liable to an import duty of Rs. 9·37 per proof gallon with a minimum rate of Rs. 8 per gallon, sweetened spirits to Rs. 9·37 per imperial gallon, unmanufactured tobacco, including hooka, to Re. 1·50 per lb., and cigars, cigarettes, and manufactured tobacco to Rs. 3 per lb.

V.—SHIPPING.

The total number of all vessels which entered the ports of the Island in 1914 was 4,401, with a tonnage of 9,338,535. This shows an increase of 118 vessels and a decrease of 765,192 tons as compared with 1913.

The following table gives the total number and nett tonnage of shipping entering all ports in Ceylon during the last three years :—

	1912.		1913.		1914.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast) ..	2,430 ..	7,610,101 ..	2,464 ..	7,981,773 ..	2,523 ..	7,041,986
Merchant vessels (called to coal) ..	764 ..	2,032,397 ..	651 ..	1,816,376 ..	615 ..	1,728,558
Native sailing vessels ..	1,120 ..	96,989 ..	1,115 ..	106,958 ..	1,159 ..	103,541
Warships*	38 ..	177,110 ..	53 ..	198,620 ..	104 ..	464,450
Total ..	4,352	9,916,597	4,283	10,103,727	4,401	9,338,535

* Warships displacement tonnage.

Omitting warships and vessels calling to coal, the following table gives the comparative distribution according to nationality for 1913 and 1914 :—

		1913.		1914.	
		Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
1. {	British ..	1,660 ..	5,075,607 ..	1,840 ..	4,610,513
	British Colonial ..	992 ..	93,657 ..	1,033 ..	83,813
Total British Ships ..		2,652	5,169,264	2,873	4,694,326
2.	German ..	251 ..	1,013,884 ..	151 ..	612,852
3.	French ..	131 ..	461,530 ..	116 ..	403,375
4.	Japanese ..	100 ..	416,620 ..	105 ..	435,657
5.	Dutch ..	104 ..	330,268 ..	120 ..	446,706
6.	Austrian ..	110 ..	326,428 ..	77 ..	225,966
7.	Russian ..	62 ..	168,086 ..	38 ..	98,600
8.	Spanish ..	26 ..	64,819 ..	26 ..	63,297
9.	Italian ..	17 ..	48,003 ..	19 ..	52,349
10.	Danish ..	16 ..	38,328 ..	16 ..	45,640
11.	Norwegian ..	23 ..	36,084 ..	25 ..	31,440
12.	Maldivian ..	123 ..	13,301 ..	108 ..	13,428
13.	Siamese ..	5 ..	8,139 ..	1 ..	2,228
14.	Swedish ..	1 ..	3,267 ..	3 ..	7,312
15.	Greek ..	— ..	— ..	4 ..	12,351
Total Foreign Ships ..		969	2,928,757	809	2,451,201

The predominance of British shipping continues, but the decrease in tonnage of 474,938 tons is due to the war.

The falling off in German, Austrian, Russian, and French shipping is traceable to the same cause.

There has been a slight increase in the number of Dutch and Japanese vessels.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Thirty-four Ordinances were passed during the year 1914. The only Ordinances of special interest are a group connected with the outbreak of the present war. These Ordinances were as follows:—

- (a) "*The Effect of War Ordinance, No. 18 of 1914*," declared that all questions relating to the effect of war upon the legal rights and liabilities should be determined in accordance with law by which such questions would for the time being be determined in England.
- (b) "*The Necessaries of War Exportation Ordinance, No. 19 of 1914*," enlarged to the fullest possible extent the power of the Governor to prohibit the exportation of necessaries of war and generally of any articles the exportation of which would be liable to increase the resources of the King's enemies or to restrict the supplies of his forces and subjects.
- (c) "*The Trading with the Enemy Ordinance, No. 20 of 1914*," was passed to enforce the Trading with the Enemy Proclamation issued in the United Kingdom.
- (d) "*The Tea Cess Ordinance, No. 21 of 1914*," authorized the "Thirty Committee" to make patriotic gifts to the Prince of Wales's War Fund and the Russian troops.
- (e) "*The Volunteer Amendment (Town Guards) Ordinance, No. 22 of 1914*," put the Colombo Town Guard on a legal footing, and provided for the organization of similar town guards elsewhere.

About the time of the enactment of these Ordinances, two other Ordinances sanctioned before the outbreak of the war were opportunely passed, namely, "*The Wireless Ceylon Telegraph (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 15 of 1914*," which increased the Government control of wireless telegraphy, and "*The Aerial Navigation Ordinance, No. 24 of 1914*," which made the legislation of the Colony uniform with that of the mother country.

Another group of Ordinances to which attention may be called consists of Ordinances making the necessary adjustment in regard to cooly camps and Customs for the purpose of the new railway connection with India *via* Talaimannar. They are "*The Indian Coolies (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 3 of 1914*," and "*The Ceylon Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 4 of 1914*." Contemporaneously with these was passed "*The Customs (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 5 of 1914*," which cleared up various doubts and regularized the various practices already in existence in the administration of the Customs of the Colony.

Two Ordinances, namely, "*The Excise (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 25 of 1914*," and "*The Ceylon Post Office (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 26 of 1914*," while dealing with other matters, were passed mainly with a view to give effect to the new and the more stringent policy adopted with regard to the importation and use of cocaine.

The only other Ordinance of any interest was "*The Habitual Criminals and Licensed Convicts Ordinance, No. 32 of 1914*," which introduced two new elements into the legislation on the subject, namely:—

- (a) A new scheme for the recording and improving of previous convictions of habitual criminals by means of finger prints;
- (b) A scheme of preventive detention following the lines of that recently introduced into the United Kingdom.

VII.—EDUCATION.

It is difficult to draw a clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon. The English-speaking community form scarcely one per cent. of the total population, so that most of the schools where English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the large majority of their pupils.

The vernacular schools constitute the real elementary education of the country.

VERNACULAR EDUCATION.

In 1914 there were 794 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 82,092 boys and 25,273 girls. There were also 1,807 aided schools, with an attendance of 126,554 boys and 72,640 girls.

The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1914 was approximately Rs. 1,217,888, of which, roughly speaking, Rs. 551,458 was spent on Government schools and Rs. 666,430 on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island except Jaffna.

At the end of 1914 there were 255 aided estate schools, and returns from 576 estates showed that of a total of 15,882 children of school-going age 7,703 were attending estate schools. Of these, 6,423 were boys and 1,280 girls.

A school for the deaf and blind has been carried on since 1912, and receives an annual grant from Government of Rs. 3,000.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS.

In 1914 there were 247 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 45,139 pupils, of whom 35,915 were boys and 9,224 girls.

In many of the schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge Local Examinations. In 1913 the candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were—

			Candidates.		Honours.		Passed.
Senior	..	..	693	..	53	..	337
Junior	..	..	939	..	44	..	619

The results of the London University Examinations in 1914 showed that 63 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 29 of whom passed. In addition, 8 candidates passed the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 13 passed the Intermediate Examination in Science, 2 the examination for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, 2 the First Examination in Medical Degrees, and 1 the Bachelor of Laws.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form either of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. Considerably more than Rs. 250,000 was expended in grants to English schools in 1914.

Two Government scholarships are offered annually, one on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Arts and the other on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. These scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £200 each per annum, with free passage to England and a £50 outfit allowance. The holders may join any British University, or study at any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom.

TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

The Government Training College consists of three departments: English, Sinhalese men, and Sinhalese women. The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1914 the number of students in training was English 34, Sinhalese men 55, Sinhalese women 20.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

There are no Government industrial schools, but carpentry schools are attached to five Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1914 the aided industrial schools, which are 39 in number, received grants amounting to over Rs. 22,000. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, printing, shoemaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry.

The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders, and is carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. Over 200 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender.

AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION.

An attempt has been made to supply elementary agricultural instruction by a scheme for school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture; there is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three inspectors. 286 school gardens attached to Government schools are worked under this scheme, and 53 grant-in-aid schools receive garden grants. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition.

VIII.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS.

There are 80 Government hospitals equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances; the number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 647; in addition to the hospitals, there are 427 Government dispensaries and 366 estate dispensaries. The estate dispensaries are provided by the owners of the estates, and receive drugs free from Government up to a value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

Three hospitals were completed and opened during the year, at Ingiriya, Undugoda, and Tissamaharama, respectively, and five others are in course of construction, at Pimbura near Agalawatta, Alutnuwara, Passara, Kitulgala, and Pelmadulla.

MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.

A general rebuilding scheme is in contemplation for the improvement of the Medical College. The full course of training for medical students is five years; a diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful medical students.

In Colombo there are a Bacteriological Institute, a General Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a hospital for women and children, and one for infectious diseases; there is an establishment where calf vaccine is manufactured, and there are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases.

ASYLUMS.

The Lunatic Asylum contains 826 inmates. As there is very considerable overcrowding in the present building, it is proposed to build a new institution a few miles out of Colombo, with accommodation for 1,000 patients, and for the necessary staff, officers, and servants. The number of patients treated in the asylum during 1914 was 1,068 (685 males and 383 females). The number discharged was 166 (males 128 and females 38), and the number of deaths was 76 (males 42 and females 34). In the House of Observation 297 persons were treated, of whom 276 were discharged or admitted to the Asylum, 5 cases died, and 16 remained at the end of the period.

The Leper Asylum is situated 6 miles from Colombo; it contained 426 patients at the end of the period. The total treated during 1914 numbered 557. A small establishment for lepers exists at Kalmunai, in the Eastern Province, and has accommodation for 30; it is proposed to establish a leper colony at Mantivu in the same Province.

A Home for Incurables (containing 80 beds) is administered by a Committee of Government officials and representatives of the public.

IX.—CRIME.

POLICE.

The authorized strength of the Police on December 31, 1914, was 1 Inspector-General, 8 Superintendents, 15 Assistant Superintendents, 35 Inspectors, 84 Sub-Inspectors, 20 Station House Officers, 290 Sergeants, 2,127 Constables.

In addition, the strength of the European Police was 1 Inspector, 2 Sub-Inspectors, 7 2nd Class Sergeants, 21 3rd Class Sergeants.

The cost of the Force was Rs. 1,578,500 approximately.

CRIME STATISTICS.

The following table shows the more important forms of serious crime in the year under review and in the previous year :—

	1913.	1914.
Murder	172	209
Grievous hurt	593	613
Causing hurt by dangerous weapons	1,002	1,218
Burglary	1,203	1,609
Theft of cattle and prædial produce	666	796

More than half the murders committed were stabbing cases, and a large majority followed on sudden and unpremeditated quarrels. In all but 16 out of 209 cases the offenders were traced. In 11 cases the accused died or proved to be insane, and in 113 cases the accused were convicted. It can be claimed, therefore, that the number of murders in which the offender was undetected is small in proportion to the number committed.

It will be seen that there was an increase in the number of cases of crime committed in the year under review as compared with the previous year. Examination of the criminal returns shows that this increase occurred entirely in the second half of the year. In an ordinary year the majority of the cases of crime occur in the first rather than in the second half of the year. This has always been attributed to the fact that the Sinhalese New Year, invariably an occasion for an outbreak of crime against property, falls within the first half of the year. However, in 1914 far the greater proportion of cases occurred in the last six months of the year.

The unusual increase in crime between July and December may be attributed to the war. Following on the outbreak of war in August, although there were

no cases of complete destitution, there was an undoubted increase in the cost of luxuries and certain articles in common use. Moreover, the closing of plumbago pits, the more economical working of factories, mills, and estates with smaller labour forces, added to the number of persons not regularly employed. In one Province, in which there had been a great increase in crime in the months of September, October, and November, a noticeable decrease in burglary coincided with the re-employment of labour early in December, when conditions became more favourable.

There were no cases of riot, looting, or serious disorder. Throughout the Colony order was maintained, and the crime which occurred is not out of proportion to the returns of previous years in view of the exceptional conditions prevailing during the war.

PRISONS.

There was an increase of 918 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1914: 1913, 9,303; 1914, 10,221.

The convictions for murder and manslaughter were 113, as against 92 in 1913. Fifty-four criminals were sentenced to be hanged, and in 41 cases the sentence was carried out. Of these, 35 were Sinhalese, 5 Tamils, and 1 Moor. Eleven convicts were deported to the Andamans for life.

There were 5 escapes during the year and 6 recaptures, inclusive of 1 prisoner who escaped prior to January, 1914.

The total number of deaths in jail was 75, as against 105 in 1913 and 167 in 1912—a marked improvement. The death-rate per 1,000 of the prisons population was 4·38, as against 6·77 in 1913 and 10·32 in 1912. The daily average sick was 80·51, as against 92·93 in 1913 and 115·09 in 1912.

The portable prison at Mankulam was closed in July and has been moved to Mahara, where it will be erected, thus affording additional accommodation for prisoners to be employed for the Harbour Works and Government Factory.

X.—VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

The estimated population of Ceylon on December 31, 1914, was about 4,260,700, a decrease of nearly 1,400 on that of the previous year. The decrease was due to an excess of about 26,700 departures over arrivals of Indian coolies, a number which exceeded the natural increase by births over deaths.

The population comprised the various nationalities shown below :—

Nationality.	Number.	Percentage of Total Population.
Sinhalese	2,798,800 ..	65·7
Tamils (indigenous) ..	613,500 ..	14·4
Tamils (immigrants and their descendants) ..	512,800 ..	12·0
Moors	269,800 ..	6·3
Burghers	27,700 ..	·7
Malays	13,400 ..	·3
Europeans	7,800 ..	·2
Others	16,900 ..	·4

There is an excess of males over females in the population, viz., 113 males to 100 females, as contrasted with England and Wales, where the proportion is 94 males to 100 females.

BIRTHS.

The birth-rate in Ceylon for 1914 was 38·1 per mille, and was slightly above the average (37·5) for the previous decade, but below the rate in the preceding year (38·6). The proportion of births to population in Ceylon is similar to that

prevailing in other tropical countries, but considerably higher than the rate (about 26) in England and Wales. It has shown no marked tendency in the last sixteen years either to rise or to fall. There were 104 male to every 100 female births, the same as the English rate.

DEATHS.

The death-rate for the whole Island was 32·2, and was higher than the average (30·2) for the previous decade and the rate (28·4) in the preceding year. Since 1898, when improved registration began, the death-rate, with slight fluctuations, has had a tendency to rise. The average death-rate of Ceylon is generally much lower than that prevailing in the Straits Settlements; it is almost identical with the rates which obtain in Bombay Presidency, Bengal, and British Guiana; but the mortality exceeds that of Madras and Jamaica, whilst it is more than double the average annual mortality in England and Wales, and almost three times the rate in the Australian Commonwealth and New Zealand.

The tea, rubber, and cocoa estates at the end of the year 1914 contained a population of about 579,300, mostly of Tamil immigrants from Southern India. The estate death-rate rose to 42·85 per mille from an average of 33·2, and was as high as 79·2 and 74·5 in Ratnapura and Kurunegala estates respectively.

The urban death-rate was 30·5 per mille, as against an average of 29·3 for the preceding five years. The rate rose from 8·9 in Nuwara Eliya town to 64·8 in Anuradhapura and 64·4 in Mullaittivu. But the mortality rate of Nuwara Eliya is calculated, not on the average population of the town, which is not known, but on the population estimated on a census taken at the height of the Nuwara Eliya season, and this recorded rate is obviously flattering to the sanatorium of Ceylon. Excluding Nuwara Eliya, the healthiest town, as in the previous year, was Kegalla, with a death-rate of 16·1.

Infantile Mortality.

The infantile mortality was 213 per 1,000 registered births compared with an average of 191 and an average rate in England and Wales of 121 to 1,000 births registered. In the last sixteen years the infantile mortality has shown a tendency to rise.

The estate infantile mortality was 246 per 1,000, as in the previous year, and the urban rate was 255, as against 246 in the previous year.

Causes of Death.

The proportion of deaths in the general community from certain principal causes to a million of the population was as follows:—Diarrhœa, 3,511; infantile convulsions, 3,438; bronchitis and pneumonia, 1,262; dysentery, 1,112; phthisis, 994, and other forms of tuberculosis, 101; malaria and malarial cachexia, 645; anchylostomiasis, 620; premature birth and congenital defects, 365; cancer, 99; enteric fever, 70; smallpox, 24; and cholera, 11.

The total number of deaths from plague registered in the Island during the year was 401, of which 378 were within the Municipal limits of Colombo and 23 elsewhere. This number corresponded to a rate of 94 per million persons living in the Island.

Accidental drowning accounted for 101 deaths per million, falls from trees for 86, and snake-bite for 56.

209 deaths (including 2 of Europeans) resulted from suicide, and corresponded to a rate of 49 per million persons living. The rate in England and Wales in 1912 was 98 per million.

Homicide also accounted for 209 deaths, corresponding to a rate of 49 per million—more than five times the rate prevailing in England and Wales.

CLIMATE.

Rainfall.—The highest annual rainfall registered was at St. Martin's estate, Rangalla, which had a total of 178·93 inches and 174 days on which rain fell. The lowest annual rainfall was at Mankulam, which had a total of less than half its average, i.e., 26·01 inches in 90 days. The stations with the highest and lowest average annual rainfall are, respectively, Padupola with 220·73 inches in 202 days, and Marichchikaddi with 33·06 inches in 57 days. The longest drought occurred at Mantota, lasting for 143 days, May 9 to September 28. The longest wet period occurred at Duckwari estate, Rangalla, lasting for 62 days, May 27 to July 27.

The annual rainfall at Colombo (Cinnamon Gardens) was 74·26 inches in 181 days. At Kandy 78·90 inches were registered in 197 days, while the annual rainfall at Nuwara Eliya was 83·95 inches in 220 days. On the whole, the annual rainfall was above normal in the north and east, and slightly below it elsewhere.

Temperature.—The highest average for the year was Trincomalee 83·8° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya 60·4° F. At Colombo and Kandy the averages were 81·1° F. and 76·7° F. respectively.

The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 101·2° F. at Anuradhapura on September 17. The highest on record is 103·7° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1914 was 93·1° F. on February 10.

The mean daily range, i.e., difference between the average maximum and average minimum, was highest at Nuwara Eliya (19·1° F.), and lowest at Galle (9·4° F.). At Colombo and Kandy it was 12·8° F. and 14·2° F. respectively. The absolute range, i.e., difference between actual highest and lowest readings, for the year was maximum at Nuwara Eliya (51·2° F.), and minimum at Galle (21·1° F.).

XI.—POSTAL SERVICE.

Five new post offices and 3 new receiving offices were opened during 1914. The total number of post offices now is 500, of which 168 are also telegraph offices.

The number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1914 is estimated at 49 millions, as against 46 millions in 1913. The number of parcels dealt with was 705,659, an increase of 28,085 over the previous year. Of these, 10,313 were despatched to the United Kingdom and 24,885 received from the United Kingdom.

The increase in telegrams is shown by the following figures :—

		1913.		1914.
Inland ..	..	916,578	..	1,028,846
Indian ..	..	227,830	..	236,613
Other countries	..	101,803	..	114,736

The increase is not so large as it would have been in normal circumstances, the war causing a considerable falling off in telegrams in the closing months of the year.

Postal Improvements.—On the opening of the Indo-Ceylon Railway from March 1 the letter mails for India were despatched by this route, and advantage taken of the night service for the despatch of mails for the Northern and North-Central Provinces. A railway travelling post office for sorting correspondence to and from India and to expedite the disposal of the northern mails is attached

to the Indo-Ceylon train between Colombo and Anuradhapura. The British India steamer daily service between Colombo and Tuticorin was suspended in August, and all mails are now despatched by the inland route.

Motor mail services replaced the existing horse and coach services on Matara-Deniyaya (52 miles) and Matale-Dambulla (29 miles) lines.

The inland rules relating to registered newspapers were extended to include newspapers and periodicals registered in the United Kingdom or British Colonies and re-posted in Ceylon for inland delivery.

In September the British Post Office notified the total suspension of postal relations with Germany, the German Colonies, and Austria-Hungary, and letters, parcels, &c., for these countries were not accepted for onward transmission. Special arrangements were subsequently made by the British Post Office for the interchange of correspondence of prisoners of war.

Telegrams.—In May a reduction was made in the rates for telegrams to Europe, West Africa *via* Europe, and America; and a scheme for week-end telegrams at reduced rates providing for the transmission of telegrams on Saturday night to be delivered at destination on Tuesday morning was introduced between Ceylon and the United Kingdom, Germany, South and Central Africa. This service was subsequently extended to Australia and New Zealand.

Since the outbreak of the war the service of week-end telegrams has been temporarily suspended.

A Baudot duplex system of telegraph working between Colombo and Madras was successfully inaugurated by an expert lent by the British Post Office.

Telephones.—Government telephone exchanges were opened at Peradeniya and Matara, bringing the total of Government exchanges up to nine.

Increased use of the telephone system has been made for transmitting telegrams.

The number of subscribers to the Colombo exchange rose from 992 to 1,215, and the total number of telephones maintained from 1,803 to 2,172.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 14,667,967 in 1914, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 6,451,624 over 1913. The average annual expenditure during the past nineteen years is Rs. 5,709,655.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 3,946 miles, of which 3,646 miles are cart roads and 300 miles are bridle roads.

Among the more important works completed or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—Office for the Master Attendant, Colombo; warehouses on old coaling grounds; Colombo Customs quay wall and jetties; bungalows for Government officers stationed in Colombo; residence for Colonial Secretary, Nuwara Eliya; Government and Police buildings, Talaimannar; and the Leper Asylum, Eastern Province.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development Scheme.

The necessity for retrenchment in consequence of the war led to the postponement in the latter part of the year of a number of projected works.

IRRIGATION.

The total expenditure of the Irrigation Department for the fifteen months of the financial period was Rs. 1,119,380.

Work during the year was continued on Karachehi, Unnichchai, Pattipolai-aar, Kirinde-oya right bank, and Tabbowa schemes. The Nachchaduwa scheme was completed.

A large amount of survey work under the Pattipolai-aar work was done, and 1,000 acres blocked out for sale under Karachehi scheme.

The area irrigated and paying rate under the Crown works is 123,060 acres ; in addition, there is a large area irrigated free. A considerable area of irrigable land is ready for development.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

Open Line.

The total length of line open for traffic on September 30, 1914, was 672 miles, the increase being due to the opening of the new line to Talaimannar on March 1, 1914.

The revenue derived amounts to Rs. 16,535,291, or an increase of Rs. 781,721 as compared with the previous financial year.

In passenger traffic 1,074,131 passengers and in goods traffic 14,999 tons were conveyed in excess of last year. The principal increases in goods traffic are rubber 5,824 tons, coconut produce 4,873 tons, tea and rubber packing 2,829 tons, liquid fuel 1,530 tons, and other goods 4,976 tons.

The working expenses for the year amount to Rs. 9,616,780, including a sum of Rs. 511,831 expended on maintenance works.

The result of the year's working is as follows :—

				Rs.
Receipts	..	..	..	16,535,291
Working expenses	..	..	..	9,616,780
Balance	..	..	..	6,918,511

Of this balance, a sum of Rs. 1,913,985 was expended on additional accommodation and improvements. A further sum of Rs. 2,868,568 was also spent on new works and rolling stock, 34 engines and 67 passenger and goods vehicles being put into traffic on the broad and narrow gauge lines during the year.

The capital cost, including additional accommodation and improvements to September 30, 1914, amounts to Rs. 118,963,006, and capital outstanding on Railway loans Rs. 56,336,656.

Railway Extensions.

In addition to the completion of the Talaimannar line, to which reference has already been made, steady progress was made during the year with the extensions to Chilaw, Pelmadulla, and Badulla, and the Colombo Stations Extension, and with the duplication of the line from Ragama to Rambukkana.

COLOMBO DRAINAGE WORKS.

The drainage of Colombo has been undertaken by Government at the request of the Municipal Council, the necessary funds being advanced by Government on loan, while further assistance is being given by the contribution of a part of the expenditure as a free grant.

The scheme provides for a complete system of sewers and rain-water drains throughout the city, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment upon modern lines.

At the end of 1914 111 miles of sewers and rain-water drains had been laid, and 4 pumping stations brought into regular operation.

The City Sanitation Engineer's report for December showed that 24 public water-carriage latrines had been constructed and put into use, and that 816 other premises had been drained.

XIII.—COLOMBO PORT COMMISSION.

During the year 1914 the organization of the new Port Department was completed. Practically the whole of the maintenance work in connection with the harbour has been transferred from other departments and is now in the hands of the Port Department.

Considerable progress was made with the sanctioned Port Improvement Works. In the Harbour Works area (between the Patent Slip and the Block Loading Jetty) 714 feet of new quay walling was completed, and paved yard with an area of 9,200 sq. ft. is now available. The Public Works Department has made further progress with the new Customs warehouses on the old coaling grounds, and six warehouses and a covered roadway of a total area of 52,650 sq. ft., with the necessary quay wall and jetties, have been practically completed. The work on the eastern portion of the old coaling grounds has been somewhat retarded, owing to the erection of temporary sheds for the storage of rice in connection with measures taken on the outbreak of plague in the city of Colombo in January. The extension of the export warehouses in the old Customs premises west of the passenger jetty was completed in May. Further progress has also been made with the scheme for connecting the Colombo lake with the harbour by means of a canal and locks. Owing to the reduction of expenditure consequent on the war the prosecution of the less important works was postponed during the latter portion of the year.

The Port Commission has had under consideration the question of the provision of complete facilities for the discharge, bunkering, and storage of liquid fuel and other petroleum products at Colombo, and expert advice on the subject is being obtained from England.

The "Sir John Coode" was engaged during the year in deepening the harbour to a depth of 33 feet. The new dredger "Sir William Matthews," the cost of which is £72,250, arrived at Colombo in August, and a certificate of delivery of the vessel, which is capable of dredging to a depth of 45 feet, was given to the contractors in October. The port is now fully equipped to keep pace with the dredging work being carried on in the Suez Canal for the passage of vessels of greater draught.

The protection of the sea face of the South-west Breakwater by the deposit of a wave breaker of 30-ton blocks on the outer side of the structure was completed in March.

The tonnage of vessels visiting Colombo harbour in 1914 amounted to 1,657,199. The receipts from the Graving Dock were Rs. 30,195·11, and from the Patent Slip Rs. 16,508.

The expenditure on Harbour Works (apart from those being carried out by the Public Works Department) during 1914 amounted to Rs. 2,047,492·01; the total expenditure since the commencement of the South-west Breakwater in 1873, including maintenance charges, is therefore Rs. 47,252,032·01. The sum expended by the Public Works Department in the construction of new warehouse and wharf accommodation during the year was Rs. 895,199·53, the total expenditure for the year thus amounting to Rs. 2,942,691·54.

XIV.—EXCISE.

The year under review started with an increased staff, and there has been marked progress in the operations of the Department, particularly in the direction of detection and suppression of illicit practices and regulation and supervision of licensed places.

No change of any striking nature was introduced during the year, and the policy inaugurated in the previous year was pursued. The only change in the Legislature dealing with Excise was the passing of Ordinance No. 25 of 1914 to amend the principal Ordinance No. 8 of 1912.

The chief amendment was the inclusion of "cocaine" in the sections relating to bhang, ganja, &c., in the principal Ordinance. Soon after the passing of the Ordinance some notifications regulating the importation, possession, and sale of cocaine were published.

In December, 1914, the rate of Customs duty leviable under Ordinance No. 5 of 1914 on all foreign spirits imported into Ceylon was raised from Rs. 7 per proof gallon with a minimum of Rs. 6 (Rs. 8 for unenumerated spirits) to Rs. 9·37 per proof gallon with a minimum of Rs. 8.

As experience was acquired the general conditions applicable to all Excise licenses and the sale conditions of arrack and toddy rents were duly revised, with slight alterations in minor details, for the financial year October, 1914, to September, 1915.

The arrack and toddy rents for the same period were sold in May and June, and satisfactory prices were secured, resulting in an aggregate increase of Rs. 1,806,733 over the figures for the previous financial year in terms of twelve months. Thus, the increase in the arrack rents was 24·55 and that in the toddy rents was 46·9 per cent. over the preceding period.

The fees on those foreign liquor licenses which are assessed on a system of gallanage or business done were substantially increased in all the districts of the Island with due regard to the extent of business done, as calculated on the statistics carefully collected and checked by the Department. The revenue from this source for the financial year 1914-15 shows a marked increase of 29 per cent. over the revenue for the previous financial year in terms of twelve months, and of 93 per cent. over the revenue derived in 1911-12 before the present Ordinance was introduced.

The experimental distillery was worked from May 1 to December 31, and information was collected in regard to distillation, fermentation, cost, and other material points.

There were 256 private distilleries licensed during 1914. The rules which were passed and published in May, 1913, were enforced as far as practicable, with the result that much improvement is noticeable in the condition and working of the distilleries.

Considerable energy was exercised by the subordinate officers of the Department in the detection and suppression of illicit practices. Some 2,249 cases of offences against the Excise law were decided in the courts during 1914, resulting in fines amounting to Rs. 144,950, exclusive of other punishments, such as imprisonment, &c., and those settled departmentally by way of composition fees. The fines imposed by courts in 1913 were Rs. 62,603·75.

A departmental Excise Manual, containing the Excise law and the regulations made thereunder, with references to the leading cases on the subject, departmental instructions for the guidance of officers, &c., was printed and published during the year.

March 29, 1915.

M. A. YOUNG,
Third Assistant Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
818	Malta	1913-1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago	"
820	Jamaica	"
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	"
823	Zanzibar	"
824	Barbados	1913-1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	"
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913-1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

(C197) Wt.36078/850. 1125 & 90. 9.15. B. & F.Ltd. G.11/2.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL,

LIBRARY
NOV 1915

No. 856.

HONG KONG.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 814.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

September, 1915.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 7622-47.] Price 4d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I.—FINANCES	4
II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING, INDUSTRIES, FISHERIES. AGRICULTURE, AND LAND	7
III.—LEGISLATION .. .	18
IV.—EDUCATION	19
V.—PUBLIC WORKS	22
VI.—GOVERNMENT AND AIDED INSTITUTIONS	24
VII.—INSTITUTIONS NOT SUPPORTED BY GOVERNMENT	26
VIII.—CRIMINAL AND POLICE	27
IX.—VITAL STATISTICS	28
X.—POSTAL SERVICE	30
XI.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	30

MAP.

No. 856.

HONG KONG.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 814.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Hong Kong,

13th July, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith six copies of the Colonial Secretary's report on the Blue Book for 1914.

I have, etc.,

F. H. MAY,

Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,

etc., etc., etc.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1914.

I.—FINANCES

The revenue for the year amounted to \$11,007,273, being \$1,254,313 more than the estimate and \$2,494,964 more than the revenue for the previous year.

Compared with the returns for 1913 there were increases under every head with the exception of Light Dues, Post Office, Miscellaneous Receipts, and Land Sales. "Interest" remained at nil.

The expenditure amounted to a total of \$10,756,225, inclusive of a sum of \$1,639,595 spent on Public Works Extraordinary.

The detailed figures for 1914 are set out in the following statements :—

Heads of Revenue.

						\$
Light Dues	..	..	..	..	..	90,397.87
Light Dues, Special Assessment	..	..				103,667.97
Licences and Internal Revenue not otherwise specified	..	..	..	..	..	7,979,439.51
Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific purposes, and Reimbursements in Aid	..					727,777.59
Post Office	..	..	..	..	..	398,426.38
Kowloon-Canton Railway	..	..	..			381,313.28
Rent of Government Property, Land and Houses	..	..	..	..	..	936,648.02
Interest	..	..	..	..	..	....
Miscellaneous Receipts	..	..	..	..	..	124,416.04
TOTAL (Ordinary),						10,742,086.66
Land Sales (Premia on New Leases)						265,186.43
TOTAL						<u>\$11,007,273.09</u>

Expenditure.

	\$
Governor	85,986.29
Colonial Secretary's Department and Legislature	70,894.40
Secretariat for Chinese Affairs	51,178.04
Audit Department	32,697.22
Treasury	66,943.60
Harbour Master's Department	176,287.98
Imports and Exports Department	991,096.46
Royal Observatory	25,398.31
Miscellaneous Services	945,131.62
Judicial and Legal Departments	259,181.94
Police and Prison Departments	933,156.52
Medical Departments	230,896.86
Sanitary Department	353,521.53
Botanical and Forestry Department	49,076.14
Education	292,820.83
Military Expenditure	1,886,346.31
Public Works Department	414,510.57
Do. Recurrent	567,100.18
Do. Extraordinary	1,639,594.72
Post Office	371,646.06
Kowloon-Canton Railway	274,366.39
Charge on account of Public Debt	705,808.50
Pensions	305,030.61
Charitable Services	27,553.74
TOTAL	\$10,756,224.82

The surplus on the year's working was \$251,048, and the balance of assets and liabilities showed on the 31st December a sum of \$2,910,474 in the Colony's favour.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the five years 1910-1914 :—

	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
	\$	\$
1910	6,960,861	6,907,113
1911	7,497,231	7,077,177
1912	8,180,694	7,202,553
1913	8,512,308	8,658,012
1914	11,007,273	10,756,225

The capital expenditure on the British section of the Kowloon-Canton Railway during 1914 was \$574,429, chiefly in connection with the erection of a terminal station and purchase of rails, locomotives, and rolling stock. The total expenditure on this account amounted at the end of the year to a sum of \$14,095,661.

The amount of the consolidated loan stands at £1,485,732, and in addition the advances by, and drafts on, the Crown Agents for Railway Construction amounted at the end of the year to £109,404. Against these items there is at credit of the Sinking Fund a sum of £186,294 and there is a balance of £128,479 unpaid in respect of the loan to the late Viceroy of Wuchang.

No new taxation was imposed during the year. The farm system in connection with Opium revenue was abolished from 1st March and direct Government control substituted therefor.

For the year commencing 1st July, 1914, a new valuation was made of the whole Colony, with the exception of some of the outlying small Chinese villages.

Increases.

The City of Victoria, \$170,833 or 16·69 per cent.

The Hill District, \$23,700 or 7·93 per cent.

Shaukiwan, Saiwanho, and Quarry Bay, \$6,992 or 1·88 per cent.

Hong Kong Villages, \$31,501 or 23·61 per cent.

Yaumati, \$63,275 or 24·11 per cent.

Mongkoktsui, \$39,985 or 25·51 per cent.

Hung Hom and Hok Un, \$3,676 or 1·24 per cent.

Kowloon Point, \$76,550 or 15·02 per cent.

New Kowloon, \$13,934 or 15·80 per cent.

Kowloon Villages, \$5,845 or 6·92 per cent.

The rateable value of the whole Colony amounted to \$14,410,103, being an increase of \$1,974,291 or equal to 15·87 per cent. over the value of the previous year.

For the period 1905–1914 the assessment of the whole Colony has risen from \$10,511,163 to \$14,410,103, an increase in value of 37·09 per cent.

The circulation on the 31st December of notes of the three Banks having authorised issues was as follows:—

Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank	.. ..	\$23,482,903
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China		6,071,633
Mercantile Bank of India	.. ..	1,308,191
		<hr/>
		\$30,862,727

The currency of the Colony consists, in addition to the notes of these banks, of British, Hong Kong, and Mexican dollars and of subsidiary coin.

Foreign note circulation has wholly ceased.

The rate of discount on Hong Kong subsidiary coin, as compared with notes, varied during 1914 between the following limits:—

50 cent pieces,	1½ per cent.	to	13½ per cent.	
20	„	2	„	19½ „
10	„	2½	„	19½ „
5	„	2	„	14½ „
Copper coin,	par		„	11 „

Compared however with the Mexican dollar which is the standard of the Colony the variations were as follows:—

50 cent pieces	1½ per cent.	to	3½ per cent.	
20	„	2	„	8½ „
10	„	2½	„	9½ „
5	„	2	„	4 „
Copper coin,	par.			

It will be seen therefore that Bank notes were at a premium varying from par (in January) to $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. (in December).

The total issue of these coins, less those demonetized, now amounts to \$31,392,720 nominal value, and they were up to the year 1905 readily absorbed at par, large quantities being taken by the neighbouring provinces of China. During 1914 ten cent pieces of the face value of \$5,000,000 were shipped to England for purposes of demonetization. The discount which has prevailed since 1905 may be attributed to the immense quantity of similar coin which has latterly been minted at Canton as well as to the amount of Hong Kong coin minted largely in excess of the needs of the Colony by itself. In 1905 the Hong Kong Government ceased to issue any subsidiary coin and in 1906 it began a policy of demonetizing all its subsidiary coin received as revenue. This policy has been continuously followed since except during a brief period in 1911. Coin to the face value of \$12,607,459 has thus been redeemed. The total issue by the Hong Kong Government was of the face value of about \$44,000,000. It is thought that half of that amount has dropped out of circulation.

Ordinance No. 15 of 1913, which was passed to prohibit the circulation of foreign silver coin, came into force on 1st March.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING, INDUSTRIES, FISHERIES, AGRICULTURE, AND LAND.

(a.)—SHIPPING AND TRADE.

The total of the shipping entering and clearing at ports in the Colony during the year 1914 amounted to 517,439 vessels, of 36,756,951 tons, which, compared with the figures for 1913, shows an increase of 27,211 vessels, with a decrease of 986,031 net register tons.

Of the above, 51,214 vessels, of 25,279,624 tons, were engaged in foreign trade, as compared with 47,520 vessels, of 25,821,652 tons, in 1913, and were distributed as follows :—

	1913. Numbers.	1914. Numbers.	1913. Tonnage.	1914. Tonnage.
British ocean-going ships ..	8·8 %	8·3 %	32·7 %	33·0 %
Foreign ocean-going ships ..	9·9	8·2	36·0	33·9
British river steamers ..	14·0	13·0	15·8	15·9
Foreign river steamers ..	3·8	3·5	3·6	3·6
Steam-launches (under 60 tons)	9·5	13·4	0·7	1·0
Trading junks ..	54·0	53·6	11·2	12·6
	<hr/> 100·0	<hr/> 100·0	<hr/> 100·0	<hr/> 100·0

N.B.—The movements of fishing junks are not included in the above figures.

Of vessels of European construction, 4,222 ocean steamers, 4 sailing ships, 4,213 river steamers, and 3,403 steam-launches entered during the year, giving a daily average entry of 32·4 ships, as compared with 29·9 in 1913, and 28·7 in 1912.

The average tonnage of individual ocean vessels entering the port has increased from 2,577·5 tons to 2,612·1 tons. That of British ships has decreased from 2,742 tons to 2,636·3 tons, while that of foreign ships has increased from 2,453·7 tons to 2,590·2 tons.

During the past twenty years, the average tonnage of ocean-going vessels has increased from 1,327·7 tons to 2,003 tons.

The average tonnage of river steamers entered during the year has decreased from 598·6 tons to 582·1 tons. That of British river steamers has decreased from 616·2 tons to 600·4 tons, and that of foreign river steamers has decreased from 533·2 tons to 513·5 tons.

A comparison between the years 1913 and 1914 shows an increase in British ocean-going shipping of 55 ships, or 1·3 per cent., and a decrease of 127,841 tons, or 1·5 per cent. This is due to the fact that so many large ships were taken off the run, being employed as transports, etc., since the war began.

British river steamers have increased by 19 ships, or 0·3 per cent., and decreased by 87,923 tons, or 2·1 per cent. This is explained by a reduction in tonnage of the large vessels on the Canton run, by reason of the amendments to the measurement Regulations.

Foreign ocean-going vessels decreased by 480 ships of 680,413 tons, or 10·2 per cent. in numbers and 7·3 per cent. in tonnage. This may be ascribed almost entirely to the disappearance of the German and Austrian flags since the commencement of the war. But this decrease does not approach that which should result from that disappearance, (540 ships of 1,069,142 tons is the net decrease under those two flags since the war broke out), the balance being adjusted by large increases under the Japanese and Norwegian flags.

Foreign river steamers are responsible for a decrease of 3 ships of 36,058 tons, or 0·16 per cent. in numbers and 3·8 per cent. in tonnage. This is due to a slight falling off in the river passenger traffic since August.

Steam launches in foreign trade show the enormous increase of 2,282 ships of 62,980 tons, or 50·2 per cent. in numbers and 33·3 per cent. in tonnage. This may be ascribed to the fact, that, in former years, as was discovered about a year ago, many of the launches on the run to the Eastward failed to report their arrivals or departures, but, owing to better supervision, this has now ceased.

Junks in foreign trade show an increase of 1,821 vessels of 327,227 tons or 7·1 per cent. in numbers and 11·3 per cent. in tonnage. The figures given do not show nearly all the movements of the trading junks, as will appear later.

In local trade (*i.e.*, trade between places within the waters of the Colony) there appears an increase under steam launches of 32,736 vessels, or 5·2 per cent., and a decrease of 441,148 tons, or 4·1 per cent., while in junks there is an increase of 1,781 vessels or 6·7 per cent. with a decrease of 2,855 tons, or 0·2 per cent. The causes of this are identical with those mentioned in the case of foreign trade junks, and the effect is well shown by the fact that, since the outbreak of the war, the reported arrivals and departures of local trade junks have increased by well over 100 per cent. compared with the corresponding period of 1913.

The above figures do not, however, show the real state of affairs, inasmuch that many conditions have materially altered since the outbreak of war, early in August. In the remarks which follow, the year is divided into two parts—the first seven months, before the war, and the last five months, since war was declared,—and confined to the ocean-going shipping, which alone was seriously affected by the war.

First Seven Months.—A continuation, more especially in British vessels, of the steady increase which has been noted during past years, amounting, in the case of British ships, to 206 ships of 408,109 tons, or 8·5 per cent. in number and 8·4 per cent. in tonnage, compared with 6·4 per cent. and 8·6 per cent. respectively in 1913.

Foreign ocean-going vessels increased by 119 ships of 624,458 tons or 4·4 per cent. in numbers, and 11·9 per cent. in tonnage, compared with 7·1 per cent. and 7·9 per cent. respectively in 1913.

The average tonnage of the British ships entering decreased from 1,995·2 to 1,992·4, while that of foreigners increased from 1,948·9 to 2,080·9.

A large decrease shown in the junk trade, which amounts to 1,731 vessels (8·5 per cent.) of 28,122 tons (1·3 per cent.), is, for reasons which will appear later, not borne out by facts, but is really due to the increasing habit on the part of the junk masters of failing to report themselves.

Last Five Months.—The effect of the war in the ocean trade of the port is apparent. In British ocean-going vessels there is a decrease of 152 ships of 537,790 tons, or 8·5 per cent. in numbers and 14·9 per cent. in tonnage.

Foreign ocean-going shipping decreased by 601 ships of 1,306,957 tons, or 30·2 per cent. in numbers and 32·3 per cent. in tonnage. Of this, the practical extinction of German and Austrian tonnage is responsible for 27·2 per cent. in numbers and 26·4 per cent. in tonnage, while the remaining 3 per cent. and 5·9 per cent. represent the net result of increases and decreases under other flags. Here are found increases under Norwegian (17·4 per cent. in numbers and 22·6 per cent. in tonnage, compared with the figures for the corresponding period of 1913), and Chinese (4·5 per cent. in numbers and in tonnage), while under the Dutch flag an increase of 8·9 per cent. in tonnage is

combined with a decrease of 7·2 per cent. in numbers. Decreases are shown under Russian (64·7 per cent. in numbers and 68·3 per cent. in tonnage), Portuguese (30·5 per cent. in numbers and 20·3 per cent. in tonnage), United States (24·1 per cent. in numbers and 22·2 per cent. in tonnage), Danish (20 per cent. in numbers and 11·1 per cent. in tonnage). French shipping remains constant in numbers but decreases by 25·1 per cent. in tonnage, Swedish, while increasing by 20 per cent. in numbers, declines by 38·9 per cent. in tonnage, and Italian shipping disappears altogether.

The average tonnage of foreign ships entering has decreased to 1,977.

In the junk trade there is the enormous increase of 3,552 vessels of 355,349 tons, or 54·2 per cent. in numbers and 46·1 per cent. in tonnage. It is obvious that no such phenomenal alteration can have taken place in the trade since the outbreak of war, but the explanation is simple. Since war commenced, no vessel can enter or leave the harbour without reporting herself, by reason of the Examination service, so that, of the junks trading with Victoria Harbour, which means about 90 per cent. of those trading with the Colony, we are now able to account for all, which was very obviously not the case before.

The actual numbers of individual ocean-going vessels of European construction entering during 1914 was 825, of which 385 were British and 440 were foreign. In 1913 the corresponding figures were 791,361 British and 430 foreign.

These 825 ships measured 2,155,018 tons. They entered 4,226 times, and gave a collective tonnage of 8,468,609 tons. Thus, 34 more ships entered 221 less times, and gave a collective tonnage reduced by 405,197 tons, an average of 1,833·4 tons per entry.

The 385 British ships carried 3,766 British officers and 12 foreign officers, the latter consisting of 5 U.S.A., 2 Dutch, 2 Danish, 2 German, and 1 Norwegian.

Thus, the proportion of foreign officers in British ships was 0·32 per cent. comprising 5 nationalities, an increase of 0·02 per cent. with an increase in the number of officers and of ships.

The 440 foreign ships carried 3,082 officers, of whom 94 were British, as follows :—

	1913.	1914.
In Chinese ships	94	84
„ Japanese ships	10	6
„ United States ships	4	4
„ French ships	2	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	110	94
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Thus, 3·05 per cent. of the officers serving in foreign ships were of British nationality, with an increase in number of officers and of ships.

The nationality of the crews in British and in foreign ships was as follows :—

	VESSELS.		BRITISH CREW.		U.S.A. AND EUROPEANS.		ASIATICS.	
	1913.	1914.	1913.	1914.	1913.	1914.	1913.	1914.
British ..	361	385	24,728	24,264	1,022	866	134,220	135,214
Foreign ..	430	440	1,430	1,571	31,447	24,428	126,923	118,268
Total ..	791	825	26,158	25,835	32,469	25,294	261,143	253,482

TRADE.

It is once more necessary to call attention to the extreme inaccuracy of the reports by masters of ships of cargo carried. There being no Customs, or other staff, to compile accurate statistics, the attached figures are dependent upon these reports, although in some cases more reliable information was obtainable.

IMPORTS.

The amount reported was 4,727,036 tons compared with 4,956,125 tons in 1913, a decrease of 229,089 tons, or 4·6 per cent., which, considering the circumstances attending the last five months of the year under review,—the total withdrawal from the run of all vessels under the German and Austrian flags ; the loss (or, at least, the non-delivery) of the cargoes consigned to the Colony in many of such vessels ; the risks run by neutral and allied shipping during the early months of the war by reason of the German cruisers then at large ; and the general sense of insecurity felt by both shippers and importers,—may be considered remarkably small.

Increases are shown under the headings Beans, Coal, Cotton, Flour, Hemp, Bulk Kerosene, and Liquid Fuel, while there are decreases reported in Case Oil, Rattans, Rice, Timber, and General.

Coal.—There was an increase of 171,664 tons, or 15·1 per cent., the increase being uniformly spread over the whole year. There was a very large increase in the imports of Welsh coal, which, however, bear a very small proportion to the total imports. Japanese coal fell off and Chinese increased, while a small quantity of Australian coal found its way to the Colony in one of the prizes.

Cotton, Yarn, and Piece Goods.—Here is an increase of 3,541 tons, or 8·7 per cent. This is not a real increase, but is only apparent, being due to the reported falling off in 1913 having been greatly in

excess of facts. As a matter of fact, 1914 proved a bad year for this trade in the Colony, and for staple goods there was so little demand that the imports declined. The causes which led to this were, in the early part of the year, a heavy fall in prices and in exchange. In May and June, however, trade revived, and there seemed every prospect of a sustained improvement, when the floods inland caused a severe set-back. Then came the war, which had a most deleterious effect on the trade inland, and increased freights acted as a further deterrent to importers. Added to these, the general financial state of China throughout the year has been far from encouraging.

Flour.—There is an increase reported of 12,504 tons or 18·4 per cent.

As in Cotton, this increase is due to errors and omissions in the ship-masters' reports in 1913. From enquiries made, there was actually a falling off of 16,713 tons, or 15·4 per cent., the reasons for which are directly due to the war.

It appears that the bulk of the imports arrive here in the later months of the year, shipments in large quantities commencing from America in August. This year, on account of the war, the demand for flour at the seat of the war was far above the average, with the result that prices soared to unprecedented heights. One brand, whose usual price is \$2.30 per bag, now fetches \$4.10. At the same time, freight doubled. Before the outbreak of war, imports were above the average.

Hemp.—Here is shown an increase of 3,010 tons, or 17·3 per cent. It is possible that these figures approach the truth, as, during the first seven months of the year, conditions were very favourable to the trade, prices and freights ruling low, while in 1913 prices were very high. During these months before the war, the figures show an increase of 7,011 tons, or 73·8 per cent., while during the last five months a decrease of 4,001 tons, or 51·3 per cent. appears. This is confirmed by the fact that on the outbreak of war the market in Manila collapsed, and all business came to a standstill. Later, however, matters improved, and by the end of the year the market had practically resumed normal conditions.

Kerosene Oil.—Bulk Oil shows an increase of 21,328 tons, or 38 per cent., while Case Oil shows a decrease of 4,422 tons, or 9 per cent.

As explained last year, there is not very much significance in increases or decreases in either type of oil, so long as there is no large fluctuation in the joint total. During 1914, the market in both case and bulk oil showed a satisfactory rise, demand slightly increasing, with fair prices and freights, until after the war commenced, when sales fell 50 per cent., and up to the end of the year there was no sign of appreciable recovery. Freights rose, after the outbreak of war, from \$4 to \$10 per ton from the American coast, on account of war risks and the increased demand in Europe.

It is somewhat remarkable to note that, in spite of the above facts, the imports of case oil show a falling off, before the war, of 12,549 tons, or 38·4 per cent., while since the beginning of August there appears an increase of 8,127 tons, or 39·1 per cent. None arrived, however, after October, and that which came in that month was probably on the high seas at the time war broke out.

Stocks at the end of the year show a slight increase over those in January.

Liquid Fuel.—There is a very large increase of 23,263 tons, or 197 per cent., which appears to be borne out by facts. It is explained by the great increase in numbers of oil-burning steamers bunkering in Hong Kong.

Rattans.—The reports here show a decrease of 2,100 tons, or 63·6 per cent., the greater part of which appears to be due to failure on the part of shipmasters to report this item of cargo. As a matter of fact, the market was normal up to August, after which it declined, but only slightly.

Rice.—The figures received indicate a decrease of 102,085 tons, or 13·8 per cent., but the imports were really about normal. Shipmasters failed in the case of this cargo also to report regularly. Though the Chinese crops were good, there was a set-back on account of the floods in the summer, and, Saigon and Siam rice being plentiful and cheap, there were large imports. The war does not appear to have affected the trade in any way.

Timber.—Here the imports for 1914 are less by 17,545 tons, or 21 per cent., than those reported in 1913. This again shows the tendency to lump cargo together as “General,” for actually, about 20 per cent. more timber was imported during 1914 than during 1913. There was a slight reduction in imports of teak, which, however, was more than made up by those of Borneo hardwoods and American pine and deals.

Opium.—The trade in certified Indian opium is now confined to the gradual clearance of the opium already imported from India into Hongkong, Shanghai, and Treaty ports. The last shipment of certified opium from India arrived in Hongkong from Bombay in January, 1914; other imports have come from Shanghai, Foochow, Swatow, and Amoy. The total imports and exports of certified Indian opium, were :—

	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Total.
	<i>Chests.</i>	<i>Chests.</i>	<i>Chests.</i>	<i>Chests.</i>
Imports. . . .	834½	346	43	1,223½
Exports. . . .	2,032½	797	233	3,062½

Six hundred and seventy chests of Persian opium were imported and 1,153 exported, the destination being either London or Formosa. 1,166 chests of uncertified Indian opium were imported from India, of which 696 chests were exported to Macao. The remainder was for the use of the Government Opium Monopoly.

General.—There is a decrease of 299,212 tons, or 11·6 per cent., which is obviously due directly to the war. During the first seven months of the year there is shown an increase of 61,838 tons, or 5 per cent., against a decrease of 361,050 tons, or 29 per cent., for the last five months, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1913.

EXPORTS.

The decrease is 295,398 tons, or 11 per cent., which may be ascribed principally to the war, although there was a general falling off in exports throughout the year. The figures for the first seven months

show a decrease, compared with those for the corresponding period of 1913, of 45,332 tons, or 3·4 per cent., while those for the last five months declined by 250,066 tons, or 18·8 per cent.

Transit Cargo.—Here, again, the effect of the war is very marked. For the whole year there appears a decrease of 513,725 tons, or 10·4 per cent. For the first seven months, however, there is shown an increase of 301,699 tons, or 10·7 per cent., which appears to be very largely due to cargo carried through in German bottoms, where there is shown an increase over the 1913 transit cargo of 214,417 tons, or 51 per cent. The last five months are responsible for the decrease of 815,424 tons, or 16·5 per cent.

Emigration and Immigration.

Seventy-six thousand two hundred and ninety-six (76,296) emigrants left Hongkong for various places during the year 1914 (142,759 in 1913).

Of these, 49,780 were carried in British ships, and 26,516 in foreign ships.

One hundred and sixty-eight thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven (168,827) returning emigrants are reported to have been brought to Hongkong from the several places to which they had emigrated either from this Colony or from coast ports, as against 166,921 in 1913. Of these 129,164 arrived in British ships, and 39,663 in foreign ships.

The decrease is due first to the prohibition of deck passenger traffic by Singapore in August on account of plague and secondly is due to the war and the repatriation of coolies from Singapore, no new coolies being permitted to land.

(b).—INDUSTRIES.

(i).—*Under European Management.*

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—This industry improved as regards tonnage during the year under review.

Sugar Refineries.—Prices ruled low during the first seven months of 1914, with keen competition from Japanese and Java sugars. On the outbreak of war the Home Government bought largely in Java, and prices were forced up there by over 50 per cent. This, of course, reacted on refined; with the high prices and reduced supplies thus resulting business during the latter part of the year was considerably below normal but at good profits for the holders of early purchased raws. Demand has been further curtailed by financial difficulties due to the falling off in China's export trade, but on the whole the output of the Colony's refineries was well maintained.

Cotton Spinning.—Owing to the difficulty of securing native labour, the enhanced cost of production, and the disadvantages in the matter of Chinese fiscal charges as compared with Shanghai, the shareholders of the local mill decided to transfer the machinery and undertaking to Shanghai. Work was therefore stopped at the end of October.

The year 1914 has been most unsatisfactory for all engaged in the cotton yarn trade. The heavy fall in cotton values in the early part of the year demoralized the market for a while, but matters were

improving when the outbreak of the European war in August brought about a further heavy decline in prices and also great financial stringency amongst the Chinese. Dealers were unable to fulfil their obligations, and the burden has therefore fallen upon the importers.

Rope Manufacturing.—For the first half of 1914 prices of Manila hemp gradually declined until the outbreak of war in August, when the market there collapsed entirely and all business was paralysed, quotations becoming quite nominal. Towards the end of the year as the freight market began to settle down and tonnage became available a good demand sprang up and prices for medium and lower grades rose again closing for the end of 1914 at about 25 per cent. below the high prices ruling at the corresponding date in 1913.

Business in Manila cordage fell off in some quarters owing to the war but on the whole this was more than made up for by the increased demand from transports, etc., the total turnover of the factory comparing very favourably with that of any previous year.

Cement.—The demand throughout the Far East was fairly well maintained during 1914 although enquiries from the Philippines were less than in previous years owing to the decrease in Government work.

At the outbreak of war shipments from Europe were delayed, and although the volume of business decreased, the demand on Eastern manufacturers remained normal.

The Green Island Cement Company, Limited, is still suffering from the difficulty which exists in obtaining Kwangtung limestone.

Local selling prices have dropped to meet the competition of inferior Chinese cement, and European, Japanese, and Haiphong brands cannot be laid down here at remunerative rates.

Unless shipments of metal and other building materials are interfered with by the war, 1915 should be a good year for Far Eastern cement concerns, as supplies of Belgian and other Continental cement will probably be unobtainable.

(ii.)—*Under Chinese Management.*

Tin.—The tin business in Hongkong is annually worth some 12 millions. All tin comes from Yunnan. There are no smelters in the Colony but there are six refineries, where the Yunnan pig tin is refined and loses some 2 to 3 per cent. in the process.

				<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
1913	..	..	..	6,153 Tons.	5,734 Tons.
1914	..	..	..	6,741 Tons.	5,267 Tons.

The imports are all in Yunnan unrefined tin and the exports in refined tin.

Generally speaking, about 334 tons are exported to Japan yearly, and 1,336 tons to Shanghai. The balance goes to Europe and America. The war affected the trade last year as little tin went to Europe.

Rattan and Fibre Furniture.—The chair export business amounted only to about half of that done last year. Sea grass export was about \$1,000,000 less, while hemp export showed a decided improvement.

Native Tobacco.—The output of last year has been well maintained and its use for the manufacture of cigarettes has increased 20 to 30 per cent.

Tinned Goods.—The market has been very poor and business has fallen off 25 per cent.

Samshu.—The Superintendent of Imports and Exports reports that the trade remained steady during the first half of the year but during the second half there was a large falling off in the amount of spirit both imported and locally distilled.

Vinegar.—Merchants report that the business has remained much the same as last year.

Knitted Vests and Socks.—The market has been poor and business has gone down about one third. Japanese competition continues very keen.

Leather and Hides.—The price has advanced considerably and good business has been done but the supply is short.

Ginger and Preserves.—Owing to the European war this business, on which the Germans had a strong hold, has gone off 30 per cent.

Soy.—Exporters again report a poor market. Business has been reduced by 40 per cent.

Paper.—Business shows a further decrease of 20 per cent.

Vermilion.—The increase last year has been arrested by reason of the European war and business has fallen off 25 per cent.

Lard.—This trade, which made much good progress during 1913, has since the commencement of the war fallen off 30 per cent.

(c.)—FISHERIES.

A considerable proportion of the boat population of Hongkong supports itself by deep-sea fishing, in which pursuit a large number of junks are engaged. The villages of Aberdeen, Stanley, Shauiwan, and also many in the New Territories, are largely dependent upon this industry for their prosperity. Fresh-water fish is imported from Canton and the West River. There are oyster beds of considerable value in Deep Bay.

(d.)—FORESTRY, AGRICULTURE, AND BOTANY.

On the bare hills north of Samshuipo 28,000 pine tree seedlings, one year old, were planted, and in the same locality 7,000 pits were sown with pine tree seeds.

In the Tytam catchment area 15,000 pits were sown with pine tree seeds and at Aberdeen 10,000 pits.

On grassy hills west of the south face of the Beacon Hill tunnel 185 lb. of pine tree seeds were sown and 235 lb. on similar hills in the Kanghai valley.

About 70,000 pine tree seedlings were raised for planting in 1915.

Three thousand broad-leaved trees were planted in the Tytam catchment area and 2,000 in the Kowloon catchment area.

Over 400 Poincianas were planted in various places in Hongkong and Kowloon.

Between 800 and 900 flowering trees and shrubs were planted in conspicuous places in Hongkong in addition to the Poincianas.

Upwards of 2,000 trees were planted along the Castle Peak-Shataukok Road. They consisted of Poincianas, Albizzia, Camphor, and Ficus.

Alongside the road leading from Sheung Shui Station to the Golf Course 190 trees were planted consisting of Camphor, Aleurites, and *Crataeva*.

On the hills in the vicinity of the Fanling Golf Course over 2,200 flowering trees and shrubs were planted.

At U Kau Tang 110 flowering trees were put in.

Young pine trees from broadcast sowings on the hills near Ngauchiwan were thinned out to the extent of 45,000.

Creepers damaging trees in plantations on Mt. Victoria, Mt. Gough, Mt. Nicholson, Mt. Kellett and Mt. Parker were cut.

A large felling of pine and *Tristania* trees was made above the Pokfulam Road in order to enable new filter beds to be constructed by the Public Works Department.

Large fellings were also made on Farm Lots purchased by the Dairy Farm Co. for the cultivation of Guinea Grass.

About 9,000,000 square feet were cleared of undergrowth at the expense of the Government in connexion with anti-malarial measures. The Military Authorities paid for the clearing of 2,250,000 square feet and private individuals 288,000 square feet in addition.

In connexion with survey work about 1,780,000 square feet were cleared.

At the beginning of the year pine trees on the south side of the hills were attacked by caterpillars and about 20 tons of these insects were collected and destroyed. This is the worst visitation of this pest since 1894.

An economic garden was started near Fanling in the autumn and trials are being carried out with vegetables and fruits with a view to induce the natives to take up their cultivation.

The first rice crop was above the average and the second was even better. Difficulty was experienced in harvesting the second crop owing to the wet weather which prevailed at the time.

Lichees were below the average and peanuts were good.

The autumn was the wettest on record according to statistics extending over 23 years kept by the Botanical and Forestry Department, rain falling on no less than 45 days, the average for the same period being 24 days.

In April a trip was made to the North River and several interesting additions to the flora of Kwangtung were made.

(c.)—LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

The net amount of premium received from sales of Crown land and pier rights for 1914 (including \$1,429 for boundary stones) was \$245,538 a decrease of \$46,747 on the preceding year but \$38,679 more than the average for the past five years. The principal items in the Island were \$37,500 for Marine Lot 321, having an area of nearly three acres situate at North Point, purchased by the Hongkong Electric Company, Limited, and \$12,900 for Inland Lot No. 2091 situate at Kennedy Town, having an area of nearly an acre.

In Kowloon, Inland Lot No. 1286, being an unreclaimed area of 13,862 square feet situate at Yaumati, fetched \$41,586 or \$3 per square foot and Kowloon Inland Lot 1294, a building site adjoining Jordan and Nathan Roads having an area of 29,570 sq. ft., fetched \$29,620, or slightly over \$1 per square foot.

In the New Territories the net amount received for premium and boundary stones was \$19,731, being \$6,815 more than in the previous year.

The number of deeds relating to property registered in the Land Office during the year was nearly 400 less than in the previous year, the chief falling off being in the case of assignments which occurred during the latter part of the year, the number of lots changing hands being 998 as against 1,455 the previous year.

In the New Territories the demand for land continues normal.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Thirty-three Ordinances were passed during 1914, of which 19 were amendments of previous Ordinances.

The most important matters with which these Ordinances dealt were the Opium Ordinance (No. 4), by which the Government assumed the entire control and management of the opium business hitherto leased out to private individuals; the Cremation Ordinance (No. 5), which provides for the regulation of the burning of human remains and enables crematoria to be established; the Seditious Publications Ordinance (No. 6); the Public Lighting Ordinance (No. 13), which provides for the public lighting of the Colony and for the protection of the appliances used in connection therewith; the Obscene Publications Ordinance (No. 15); the Dentistry Ordinance (No. 16), which endeavours to protect the public in some measure against the practice of dentistry by incompetent and unqualified persons; the Wild Bird and Game Preservation Ordinance (No. 18); the Piracy Prevention Ordinance (No. 23), the Special Police Reserve Ordinance (No. 27), which provides for the formation of a Special Police Reserve; and the following Ordinances necessitated by the outbreak of the war with Germany and Austria-Hungary:—Trading with the Enemy (No. 21), Alien Enemies (Winding up) Amendment (Nos. 28 and 30), and the Defences (Sketching Prevention) Amendment (No. 32).

The history of the local policy with regard to enemy firms may be divided into two stages, one up to the 27th October, 1914, and the other from that date up to the present time.

In the earlier stage the foundation of the policy adopted was the desire to prevent the sending of supplies or money to enemy territory and generally to prevent trading with the enemy. In pursuance of this policy two measures were adopted which may be roughly stated as follows :—

- (a) Local firms which were branches of firms in enemy territory were given permission to carry out existing contracts as far as possible, subject to restrictions designed to prevent the remitting of money to enemy territory.
- (b) Local enemy subjects were given permission to engage in fresh trade on their own account subject to similar restrictions designed for the same object.

The view which was taken of the legal position of local import and export firms which were branches of firms in enemy territory was that trading with them or by them involved trading with persons in enemy territory and so was illegal unless licensed. The policy above outlined received the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies and was given legal sanction in the Trading with the Enemy Ordinance.

Towards the end of October, 1914, it was decided, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that all enemy subjects in Hongkong should be either expelled or interned. Although this policy was not directed against legitimate trading by enemy subjects but was based on other grounds, it necessarily involved the stoppage of the trade of enemy subjects in the Colony and gave rise to the measures taken to wind up their local affairs. These measures and their objects appear from the two winding-up Ordinances.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The registration of the private schools under the Education Ordinance proceeded satisfactorily. The Ordinance has not been applied in the New Territories, where, instead, small subsidies were granted to 50 of the most promising schools.

A new edition of the Grant Code was published in 1914. This was necessary in order to bring it into line with the Education Ordinance.

The Code now recognises the principle that all teachers in schools must be either Certificated Teachers or Students (passed or present) from the Normal Classes of the Technical Institute. The Upper Classes of English Schools are encouraged by Grants to take the Matriculation and Junior Local Examinations of the Hongkong University.

The total number of pupils at schools in the Colony, excluding the Police School and the uncontrolled schools in the New Territories, are :—

	Number of Pupils in		Total.
	English Schools.	Vernacular Schools.	
Government Schools	2,076	85	2,161
Military Schools	116	—	116
Excluded Private Schools	580	—	580
Grant Schools	2,137	2,192	4,329
Controlled Private Schools	2,075	8,790	10,865
Controlled Private Schools, New Territories	—	852	852
Technical Institute	478	—	478
Total	7,462	11,919	19,381

The most important schools, apart from the excluded schools, are *Queen's College* for Chinese and four *District Schools*, its feeders, and the *Belilios Public School* for Chinese girls. There is an *Indian School* of growing importance. *Kowloon School* and *Victoria School* for children of British parentage have an average attendance of about 120. There is also a small school for the children of the Peak District. The *Diocesan School* and *Orphanage*, *St. Joseph's College*, and the *Ellis Kadoorie School* are important boys' schools. The *Italian*, *French*, and *St. Mary's Convents*, and the *Diocesan Girls' School* are the most important of the English Grant Schools.

The Hongkong Technical Institute affords an opportunity for higher education to students who have left school. Instruction was given in 1914 in Mathematics, Machine Drawing, and Building Construction; in Chemistry, Physics, and Electricity; in Commercial English, Logic, and Political Economy; in French, Shorthand, and Book-keeping. Classes in Sanitation (Public Hygiene) and First Aid to the Injured are also held, the examinations being conducted under the auspices of the Royal Sanitary Institute, London, and of the St. John's Ambulance Association respectively. Classes for men and women teachers are a feature of the Institute.

The Lecturers are recruited from the members of the medical and educational faculties of the Colony, and from the Department of Public Works, and receive fees for their services. The Institute is furnished with a well equipped chemical laboratory and excellent physical apparatus.

While the Technical Institute has suffered in several directions from the activity of the University, it continues to perform many useful functions of its own. The Normal Classes for men and women, the Shorthand, Mathematics, and English Classes were all well attended, as also a "First Aid" Class.

The Hongkong University is an institution that arose from the joint enterprise of British and Chinese subscribers. It was founded with funds representing about equal proportions of Chinese and British money.

At the end of the year the number of students was 147, 79 of whom were taking Engineering, 36 Medicine, and 32 Arts. While most of the students have studied in Hongkong schools a number come from Canton, the coast ports of China, and the Straits Settlements.

The idea of the University is to provide, close to China, education for Chinese similar to that given in the British Universities, but at a much cheaper cost; for if a Chinese goes abroad to be educated he has to pay, besides travelling expenses, some \$2,000 per annum; whereas at Hongkong the expenses of the University are \$540 per annum for board and tuition, or, including extras, from \$600 to \$650.

The founders of the University took into consideration the fact that Chinese students being educated abroad have usually to make their own arrangements for board and lodging. Consequently sometimes they contract irregular habits. All students educated at the Hongkong University are required to become boarders, and thus their whole lives are under supervision whilst they are there. Ample provision is made for indoor and outdoor recreation, and in this connexion it is interesting to note that the Chinese residents of Hongkong recently subscribed a large sum for levelling a new playing field and that the work has just been completed.

The University is composed of three Faculties: 1.—Medical, which offers unexampled facilities for the practice of medicine. The anatomical laboratories were the gift of a Cantonese gentleman (Mr. Ng Li-hing). There is a large staff of instructors in medicine: all the principal doctors of Hongkong give lectures at the University. 2.—Arts. The establishment of the Faculty was largely due to the munificence of a Chinese gentleman in the Straits Settlements (Mr. Cheung Pat-sze). Its special object is to provide training suitable to those who desire to enter the public service or the higher branches of mercantile life. The course of instruction comprises English and Chinese literature, political and constitutional history, political economy, jurisprudence, and international and commercial law.

The largest of the Faculties is that of Engineering, to which nearly two-thirds of the students belong. It is divided into three branches: Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical. The University has an exceptionally large equipment of machinery and apparatus, and has fourteen laboratories and workshops in working order. There is practically no place in China where students have such an opportunity of seeing all kinds of machinery in actual working and of learning their practical management.

The University insists upon all students having a proper knowledge of their own language, although instruction at the University is carried out in English. Students are required to pass an examination in written Chinese before entering, and two Chinese Professors, both Hanlin graduates, give lectures on the classics and history of China.

V.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The New Magistracy was practically completed at the close of the year. The building, which is four-storeyed, is situated near the junction of Arbutnot Road and Wyndham Street and contains, in the basement, prisoners' waiting room, strong-rooms, store-rooms, cells, and servants' quarters; on the ground floor, two Police Courts, rooms for Magistrates and their clerks and for witnesses; on the first floor, Chief Clerk's offices and quarters for Indian Police Constables; on the second floor, two flats for European Police Inspectors and further quarters for Indian Police. Extensive quarters for subordinate officers were completed and occupied during the year. They included three three-storeyed blocks at Breezy Point, each block containing six flats, two of four rooms and four of three rooms; a terrace of four two-storeyed houses, two of four rooms and two of three rooms, at Mount Parish; and a terrace of eight two-storeyed houses, two of four rooms and six of three rooms, adjoining King's Park, Kowloon.

The Mongkoktsui breakwater was constructed throughout to the level of the underside of the paving blocks. The whole of the concrete blocks required for facing the outer slope above the level of low-water were completed and 8,114 blocks out of a total number of 12,405 were set in place. The pitching of the inner slope above the level of low-water was also proceeded with, 7,230 pitching stones of an average weight of half a ton each being set. The reclamation adjoining the northern entrance was completed except the pier-head, and the pier enclosing the harbour of refuge to the south was nearly completed.

The foundations of the large masonry dam of the Tytam Tuk Reservoir were partially constructed over a length of 400 feet. In the old stream-bed, the foundations were carried down to a maximum depth of 44 feet below ground level or about 40 feet below tidal low-water level, at which depth sound water-tight rock was found. Towards the end of the year, good progress was made with the concrete and masonry work. Good progress was also made with the laying of the additional pumping mains and with the foundations for the additional pumping machinery.

The following buildings were completed:—Stables for Sanitary Department adjoining No. 1 Police Station; two underground trough closets, one in Pottinger Street and the other in D'Aguilar Street; a urinal at Happy Valley; additions to the Printing Office, Victoria Gaol, and alterations and additions to Hunghom Police Station.

The following buildings were in course of erection:—New Public Works Stores; Wireless Telegraph Station at Cape D'Aguilar; married quarters for Police in Caine Road; new block of cells, etc., Victoria Gaol; a School in the Hill District, and a Police Station at Lok Ma Chau in the New Territories.

The first portion of a road along the north face of Victoria Peak, 2,820 feet in length, commencing from Victoria Gap, was completed, as was also a road to give access to Inland Lots 1946 and 1947 situated on the ridge to the east of Happy Valley. Belchers Street was extended across Marine Lot 239. The old road from Deep Water Bay

to Shaukiwan through Stanley was improved by cutting back some of the sharp corners and by widening certain narrow places. In the New Territories, the extension of the road at Castle Peak Bay and the construction of a pier there were practically completed as was also the road from Taipo to Fanling, with the exception of two bridges, one close to Taipo Market and the other about a mile south of Fanling.

Upwards of 10,000 lineal feet of streams were trained in the neighbourhood of Shaukiwan and Pokfulam, in the City and Hill District, and in Kowloon. In the New Territories, a small amount of training was done to the streams in the vicinity of the railway bungalows at Taipo. Various and considerable extensions of sewers in connexion with new building lots were carried out in Hongkong and Kowloon.

The reclamation in front of K.M.L.'s 29-31 was completed. Part of the reclaimed area is being utilized for a repairing and coaling dépôt for Government launches. The dépôt comprises a slipway for launches up to 80 tons, steel pier, coal store, carpenters' workshop, paint shop, and store, quarters for a European police sergeant, and quarters for Chinese workmen and coaling coolies. Accommodation is also provided within the dépôt for housing undesirables, the building so occupied containing an upper floor which is to be utilized for sail-making. The slipway was completed with the exception of the carriage and hauling gear.

The work of providing scavenging lanes was continued, compensation being paid where necessary.

The demolition of the riding floors over the north end of Hing Lung Street (110 Des Vœux Road Central), the south end of Tung Hing Lane (178 Wing Lok Street), and the north end of Sheung Fung Lane (84 Second Street) was carried out, the owners being compensated by Government.

The service reservoir and filter beds near Sywan Gap in connexion with the Shaukiwan Waterworks were completed. The new pumping station on Pokfulam Road, to supersede the one on Bonham Road, was completed and brought into use about the middle of the year, the old station-building being handed over to the University authorities for use as a machine-shop and engineering laboratory. The construction of extensive additional filter beds and of a large service reservoir for the supply of the western section of the City was undertaken at the close of the year.

The total amount expended on public works extraordinary was \$1,639,594.72 and on works annually recurrent \$567,100.15.

Railway.

The year's expenditure chargeable to Construction Account was \$546,602.44 main line and \$27,826.69 Fanling branch, making a total of \$574,429.13, in which is included a debit of \$194,847.04, being loss on exchange in connexion with Crown Agents' advances.

During the year the superstructure of Kowloon Terminal Station building was carried to first floor level and the platforms of the New Terminal Station were opened for traffic. One new main line locomotive arrived in the Colony and was erected, and considerable progress was made in the building of eight main line coaches. Protective works of a substantial nature were found necessary along the coast line between Shatin and Taipo and were commenced in November. One new locomotive and six new coaches were supplied to the Fanling branch.

The working expenses amounted to \$274,366.39, and when compared with gross receipts show a slight increase, the percentage for the previous year being 73.68, while for 1914 it was 75.25; this is mainly due to an unforeseen rise in the price of coal.

The revenue derived from local traffic amounted to \$131,381.42, being \$2,174.94 more than in 1913, and the earnings of through and joint sectional traffic amounted to \$225,736.61, which exceeded those of the previous year by \$28,222.02, while the Fanling branch earnings amounted to \$7,490.29 or \$578.04 more than the previous year. The excess of earnings over expenditure for 1914 was \$90,241.93 against \$87,824.74 for 1913.

The expenditure on the Fanling branch during the year amounted to \$14,991.24 or \$1,618.24 over the estimate of \$13,373, due chiefly to the repairs to washouts which occurred in July.

	1913.	1914.
Passengers booked by British Section to stations in China	250,437	277,512
Passengers booked by Chinese Section to stations on the British Section	296,614	353,722
Passengers travelling on the British Section, main line	230,339	245,527
Passengers travelling on the British Section, Fanling Branch	47,119	48,997

VI—GOVERNMENT AND AIDED INSTITUTIONS.

(a)—HOSPITALS.

Government Hospitals consist of the Civil Hospital to which is attached an isolated Maternity Hospital, the Victoria Hospital for Women and Children, and the Kennedy Town Infectious Diseases Hospital. There is an Observation Station capable of accommodating 1,500 persons in the event of an outbreak of infectious disease on board a ship arriving in the Harbour.

The Civil Hospital contains 150 beds in 19 wards. 2,742 in-patients and 13,828 out-patients were treated during 1914 as against 2,793 and 13,778 respectively in 1913. 324 cases of malarial fever were admitted as against 254 in 1913 and 198 in 1912; but the total cases of malaria

for all Government Hospitals and the Tung Wa Hospital shows an increase of 59 cases as compared with the year 1913. The Maternity Hospital contains 12 beds for Europeans and 4 for Asiatics. 261 confinements occurred during the year as against 213 in 1913. The Victoria Hospital at the Peak contains 41 beds, and during 1914, 158 patients were under treatment there. At Kennedy Town Hospital, which contains 26 beds, 8 cases were treated in 1914, all being smallpox.

(b)—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The Asylum is under the direction of the Superintendent of the Civil Hospital. European and Chinese patients are separated, the European portion containing 8 beds in separate wards and the Chinese portion 16 beds. 187 patients of all races were treated during 1914 and there were 15 deaths.

(c).—THE TUNG WA AND OTHER CHINESE HOSPITALS.

The Tung Wa Hospital, opened in 1872, is mainly supported by the voluntary subscriptions of Chinese, but receives an annual grant of \$8,000 from the Government. Only Chinese are treated in this institution. Various other services not appertaining to a hospital are performed by the institution, such as the free burial of the poor, the repatriation of destitutes, and the organisation of charitable relief in emergencies. Chinese as well as European methods of treatment are employed in accordance with the wishes expressed by the patients or their friends. About half the number are now treated by Western methods. The hospital is managed by a committee of Chinese gentlemen annually elected, their appointment being submitted to the Governor for confirmation. It is under the supervision of a visiting physician, who is a member of the Medical Department, whilst a Chinese house surgeon, trained in Western medicine, is a member of the hospital staff. There are 323 beds in the building and 4,683 patients were accommodated during 1914.

The Tung Wa also maintain a branch hospital for small-pox cases (Chinese only) at Kennedy Town. It contains 58 beds and during 1914, 17 cases were treated.

The Alice Memorial and affiliated hospitals are managed and controlled by the missionaries resident in Hongkong, agents of the London Missionary Society, and consist of the Alice Memorial Hospital opened in 1887, the Nethersole Hospital opened in 1893, the Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital opened in 1904, and the Ho Miu Ling Hospital opened in 1906. The number of in-patients in 1914 was 1,330 and the expenditure \$17,938.65. The number of labours in the Maternity Hospital was 350. The Government makes a grant of \$300 per annum to these Hospitals.

To avoid the complete seclusion from friends and relatives which removal of Chinese plague patients to the Kennedy Town Infectious Diseases Hospital entailed, four District Plague Hospitals are now

maintained by the Chinese in various parts of the Colony. These hospitals are under the management of the Chinese Public Dispensaries Committee and receive a grant of \$2,000 a year from the Government.

The new Kwong Wa Hospital for Chinese in the Kowloon Peninsula was opened on the 9th October, 1911. It occupies a site having an area of 3 acres and provides accommodation for 210 patients. The existing buildings contain 70 beds, and 1,787 patients were accommodated during 1914. The collection of subscriptions and the supervision of the building were undertaken by a special committee under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs. The hospital receives a grant of \$8,500 per annum from the Government.

As will be noticed from the remarks made under the heading Education, the Hongkong University is an aided institution.

VII.—INSTITUTIONS NOT SUPPORTED BY GOVERNMENT.

Among institutions recognised and encouraged, but not to any considerable extent supported by Government, may be mentioned the Pó Leung Kuk, the Eyre Refuge, the City Hall, and the Chinese Public Dispensaries.

The Pó Leung Kuk is a Chinese Society founded in 1878 for the suppression of kidnapping and traffic in human beings. It was incorporated in 1893 and is presided over by the Secretary for Chinese Affairs and not more than nine directors nominated by the Governor. The actual management is entrusted to a committee elected annually by the members of the Society. The Society's buildings have been declared a Refuge under the Women and Girls Protection Ordinance, and almost all women and girls detained by the Secretary for Chinese Affairs under that Ordinance are sent to the Pó Leung Kuk. During 1914 the number of persons admitted was 435 and at the close of the year 41 remained under the care of the Society. The inmates are under the immediate charge of a Chinese matron, and instruction is given them by the matron and a Chinese teacher in elementary subjects and in needlework.

The Eyre Diocesan Refuge is an institution, under mission auspices, founded for rescue work among the Chinese. It is now housed in the Belilios Reformatory and receives a small grant from the Government. It was temporarily closed after the outbreak of war.

The City Hall receives an annual grant of \$1,200 from Government. It contains a theatre, some large rooms which are used for balls, meetings, concerts, etc., a museum in which are some very fair specimens, and a large reference and lending library, to which new volumes are added from time to time, as funds will allow. The building was erected in 1866-9 by subscription.

Small grants are also given to the Italian Convent, the French Convent (both of which take in and tend abandoned or sick infants), the West Point Orphanage, the Seamen's Hospital, and other charitable institutions.

The Chinese Public Dispensaries are institutions maintained in order to provide the Chinese with the services of doctors whose certificates will be accepted by the Registrar of Deaths, and with the services of interpreters, who can assist the inmates of houses, where a case of infectious disease has occurred. Coolies are engaged and ambulances and dead vans provided in order to remove cases of infectious disease to the Infectious Diseases Hospital and dead bodies to the Mortuary. The Dispensaries receive sick infants and send them to one or other of the convents and arrange for the burial of dead infants. Free advice and medicine are given and patients are attended at their houses. There are eight Dispensaries in existence, including one for the boat population on a hulk in Causeway Bay. The total cost of maintenance, which is defrayed by voluntary subscription, was \$39,664.60 for the year 1914. The Dispensaries are conducted by committees under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs.

VIII.—CRIMINAL AND POLICE.

The total of all cases reported to the Police was 8,817, being a decrease of 3,194, or 26.59 per cent., as compared with 1913. There was in 1914 a decrease in serious offences of 467, or 13.54 per cent., as compared with the previous year. The number of serious offences reported was 596 below the average of the quinquennial period commencing with the year 1910. The number of minor offences reported shows a decrease of 2,727 as compared with 1913, and was 1,099 below the average of the quinquennial period.

The total strength of the Police Force in 1914 was Europeans 175, Indians 487, Chinese 621, making a total of 1,283 (as compared with 1,223 in 1913), exclusive in each case of the five superior officers and staff of clerks and coolies. These figures include police paid for by the Railway and other Government Departments and by private firms. Of this force 16 Europeans, 141 Indians, and 49 Chinese were stationed in the New Territories during the year, under an Assistant-Superintendent.

The District Watchmen Force, numbering 100, to which the Government contributes \$2,000 per annum, was well supported by the Chinese during the year. These watchmen patrol the streets in the Chinese quarter of the City. They are placed on police beats and are supervised by the European police on section patrol.

The total number of persons committed to Victoria Gaol was 4,050, as compared with 6,885 in 1913. Of these 935 were committed for criminal offences, against 1,369 in 1913. Of committals for non-criminal offences there were 538 less under the Prepared Opium Ordinance, and one more for infringement of sanitary bylaws, than in 1913.

The daily average of prisoners confined in the Gaol was 600, the average for 1913 being 702, and the highest previous average being 726 in 1904. The percentage of prisoners to population, according to the daily average of the former and the estimated number of the latter, was 0·12. The average percentage for the last ten years was 0·13. Owing, however, to the large floating population, which is constantly moving between the Colony and Canton, the percentage of crime to population does not convey an accurate idea of the comparative criminality of the residents of the Colony. The Gaol has accommodation for 630 prisoners.

The prison discipline was satisfactory, the average of punishments per prisoner being 1·34 as compared with 1·22 in 1913 and 1·40 in 1912.

Long sentence prisoners serving two years and upwards are taught useful trades, including printing, book-binding, tin-smithing, mat-making, tailoring, carpentering, etc. The profit on the work done was \$66,034 as against \$59,007 in 1913. A sum of \$3,329 was received and credited to Government for non-Government work against \$4,652 in 1913.

IX.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(a.)—*Population.*

The civil population of the Colony, according to the census taken on May 20th, 1911, was 456,739, of whom 104,287 reside in the New Territories and in New Kowloon; at the census taken in 1906 it was 301,967 exclusive of the New Territories and of New Kowloon. The estimated total population at the middle of the year under review was 501,304, but this includes the New Territories; and, as the birth and death figures given below do not include those from this area (with the exception of New Kowloon), the population for the purposes of calculating these rates is estimated at 410,710, of whom 20,710 were non-Chinese (including Army and Navy).

The distribution of population at the census was as follows :—

Non-Chinese civil community		..	..	..	..	12,075
Chinese Population.	(City of Victoria (including Peak)			..		219,386
	(Villages of Hong Kong	..	..	..		16,106
	(Kowloon (including New Kowloon)			..		67,602
	(New Territories	..	..	..	..	80,622
	(Population afloat	..	..	..	..	60,948
						<hr/>
Total Chinese population		..	..	..		444,664
						<hr/>
Total Civil population		..	..	..	..	456,739

(b.)—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

The activity in building operations which was so noticeable a feature of 1912 and 1913 has only slightly abated, and the demand for housing accommodation by the Chinese continued to be greatly in excess of the supply, as many of those who fled with their families to Hongkong during 1911, 1912, and 1913 elected to remain in the Colony. However, in August and September, 1914, nearly 60,000 Chinese hastily returned to China, owing to fears of a bombardment of the Colony following the outbreak of the European War. The Chinese quarters, which had been in an overcrowded condition throughout the plague season, were thus relieved of their excess, but not in time to prevent the severe epidemic of plague which had been predicted in the report for 1913. The relationship between overcrowding and plague was discussed at length in the report for 1912.*

The general birth-rate for the year was 9·3 per 1,000 among the Chinese community and 16·8 per 1,000 among the non-Chinese community, as compared with 11·7 and 15·8 during 1913.

The general death-rate for the year was 23·8 per 1,000 among the Chinese community and 12·9 among the non-Chinese community, as compared with 21·7 and 10·9 during 1913.

The number of deaths from Malaria (241) shows a decrease on the previous year (290). The deaths of Chinese from this cause in the City of Victoria numbered 73 out of a population of 247,500, or a rate of 0·29 per 1,000 per annum. All districts show a reduction in mortality from this cause except the Stanley (rural) district, where a large number of workmen have been employed throughout the year in the construction of the extension to the Tytam Waterworks.

The deaths from plague numbered 2,020, as compared with 386 in 1913 and 1,768 in 1912.

Small-pox deaths numbered 91, all Chinese, with the exception of one Portuguese infant and one British shipwright.

There were 2,252 deaths from respiratory diseases among the Chinese, as compared with 2,537 in 1913. Pulmonary tuberculosis and phthisis claimed 742 Chinese victims, while other forms of tuberculosis represent an additional 312 deaths, making a total of 1,054, or 11·3 per cent. of the total deaths among that community.

Beriberi was responsible for 399 deaths, as compared with 339 during 1913 and 231 in 1912. During the past few years circulars have been distributed to all large employers of coolie labour calling their attention to the fact that beriberi is produced by the consumption of white rice as the staple article of diet without a sufficiency of other foods, and advising that beans should be supplied with the rice when fresh meat or fresh fish cannot be afforded.

The influx of thousands of strangers from the neighbouring provinces is a sufficient explanation of the temporary rise in the number of deaths from this disease.

A tabular statement of the principal causes of death is appended (p. 34).

* Colonial Reports—Annual, No. 762.

(c.)—CLIMATE.

The mean shade temperature for the year at the Royal Observatory, Kowloon (108 feet above mean sea level), was $73^{\circ}\cdot4$, $1^{\circ}\cdot5$ higher than in 1913, and $1^{\circ}\cdot3$ higher than the mean for the past 10 years. The maximum temperature was $94^{\circ}\cdot0$ on the 31st August and the minimum $47^{\circ}\cdot4$ on the 1st January. The hottest month was August, with a mean temperature of $82^{\circ}\cdot3$ and the coldest, January, with a mean temperature of $62^{\circ}\cdot8$.

The temperature at the high levels of the Peak District is from 3° to 8° less than at the Observatory. At Victoria it is practically the same. The rainfall and humidity are considerably greater at the Peak than at Victoria, the Observatory, or Tai Po (New Territories).

The total rainfall for the year was 100·21 inches, as compared with an average of 82·73 inches during the ten preceding years. The wettest month was July, with 26·30 inches, the driest, January, when no rain fell. The greatest amount of rain which fell on any one day was 5·25 inches on the 22nd June, while no rain fell on 219 days of the year. The mean relative humidity of the atmosphere for the year was 78 per cent., or the same as for the ten preceding years. The average daily amount of sunshine was 5·6 hours, being 46 per cent. of the possible duration.

X.—POSTAL SERVICE.

The total revenue from the Postal Service in 1914 amounted to \$398,426.38 being \$41,573.62 less than the amount estimated. The revenue from the sale of Postage Stamps in 1913 amounted to \$397,083.40 and that for 1914 to \$355,018.05, a decrease of \$42,065.35, which is attributed to the dislocation of business and the diminished number of vessels sailing out of the Colony on account of the war. The expenditure in 1914 amounted to \$371,646.06. The result of the year's postal transactions shows a credit balance of \$26,780.32.

A branch Post Office was opened in the Saiyingpun district on the 1st May and is meeting a long-felt want.

The mails sent from London by the trans-Siberian route have been very erratic since the outbreak of hostilities, taking 30 to 35 days in transit against 19 days during the antebellum period.

XI.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

1. The condition of the Province of Kwangtung improved considerably during the year, though the Government found difficulty in suppressing the numerous robber bands which, owing to the disbandment of many soldiers who had been enrolled during the revolu-

tionary period, were scattered throughout the provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi, and especially in the West River districts. Many acts of piracy occurred and the influx of undesirable characters to Hongkong gave the Police cause for extra vigilance.

On the 15th March a piracy of the Norwegian steamship "Childar" occurred soon after this vessel had left Hongkong for Swatow, and in this case the pirates escaped, having run the ship close to Chinese territory near Bias Bay before they left it. The steamship "Tai On," which was attacked by pirates on the 2nd April, 1913, was again the victim of a serious piracy on the night of the 27th April when in the vicinity of Kio Island. The pirates, who had embarked as passengers, attacked the bridge, but the Master, Mr. Wetherall, assisted by the Chief Officer, Mr. Evans, the Chief Engineer, Mr. McCartney, and two Portuguese, J. Conception and A. Dias, offered a most spirited resistance. Being foiled in their attempt the pirates then set fire to the vessel and about 300 lives were lost including that of the Chief Officer, Mr. Evans, who was injured, it is feared, in the struggle on board and was unable in consequence to keep himself afloat after the ship had been abandoned. The disaster was one of the worst that have occurred in the waters of the delta, but the gallant conduct of the officers in charge of the ship had a remarkable effect in stopping any serious attempts at piracy for some time afterwards. The Government and public of Hongkong marked their appreciation of the action of Mr. Wetherall, Mr. McCartney, and Guard Dias by compensating them for the losses they suffered and by suitable presentations. The widow of Mr. Evans, the Chief Officer, was awarded an allowance by the Government. This piracy led to the passing of the Piracy Prevention Ordinance referred to under the head of Legislation. In accordance with its provisions vessels sailing to ports on the southern coast of China, which are licensed to carry passengers, have to comply with certain stringent regulations.

With the assistance of the Chinese Government and the Macao authorities the Hongkong Police were enabled to trace the perpetrators of both these outrages. They were tried by the authorities in the Kwangtung Province, and 17 of those concerned in the "Tai On" piracy and 9 of those concerned in the "Childar" piracy were executed at Canton.

2. In the month of July very serious floods occurred in the Fu and West Rivers and an immense tract of country bordering on these rivers was submerged. Great damage was done to embankments which protect the riverine fields and much suffering was occasioned to a large population who were deprived of food and shelter.

The Government contributed a sum of \$50,000 in aid of a Relief Fund and a representative Committee was appointed to raise public subscriptions and administer the fund. Including the Government contribution a sum of over \$349,000 was raised, the greater portion of which was devoted to the repair by the villagers of broken embankments. A large sum was also spent in sending food into the district at the beginning of the emergency.

The Committee worked in co-operation with the Charitable Societies in Canton, who displayed their usual energy and generosity in organising relief, and by and with the authority of the Chinese Authorities, who rendered every facility to the Members of the Committee who supervised work and relief in the district assigned to them.

3. The outbreak of war with Germany and Austria, and later with Turkey, produced a novel and trying situation in which the entire community showed a most commendable spirit. Offers of assistance from all classes and races were tendered, and conspicuous in their proffers of help were the members of the Chinese community. Practically the whole of the British male population, including very many of Indian, Portuguese, and Chinese race, not already enrolled, gave their services to the Volunteers, the Volunteer Reserves, and the Special Police Reserve. Their services were most valuable and their public spirit rendered possible a considerable reduction in the regular garrison for duty elsewhere.

The following Companies and organisations lent valuable assistance to the Government :—

The Tramway Companies and the Star Ferry Company, who conveyed soldiers and volunteers free of charge.

The Committee of the Matilda Hospital, who received free of charge certain German ladies until other arrangements could be made for their disposal.

The Joint Telegraph Companies, in all matters connected with the censorship of telegrams.

The Hongkong Volunteer Cadets and the St. Joseph's College Boy Scouts rendered useful service as messengers.

Before the end of the year £17,000 was remitted to the National Relief Fund inaugurated by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. This fund was liberally contributed to by all classes of the community, including Indians, Portuguese, and Chinese. Various other funds for relief of Belgian refugees and for supply of tobacco and clothing to the troops were also instituted and liberally supported by the community.

The cost of the passages of a number of recruits for the Armies in England not only from the Colony but from places in the Far East were defrayed by the Colonial Government. Up to the end of the year seven local residents went to take up Commissions as officers and thirty-seven for enlistments. From outside the Colony two were selected for Commissions and ten for enlistment. The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company were good enough to grant favourable preferential rates for these passages.

4. The difficulties encountered by the Green Island Cement Company in their endeavour to obtain limestone from the Kwangtung and Kwangsi Provinces were not wholly overcome, and the supply during the year was not satisfactory.

5. The Opium Farm was taken over by the Government in March and the restrictive measures adopted have already had a good effect. The energetic action of the Revenue Department has succeeded in

tracing many cases of smuggling of opium, morphine, and cocaine through the Colony and the heavy fines inflicted and the confiscation of the smuggled goods will, it is hoped, go far to checking this illicit trade.

6. An order of the Supreme Court was obtained in March for the removal of the Morrison Library from the City Hall, where it was little used by the public, to the University.

7. Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher (Assistant Colonial Secretary) proceeded on leave on the 19th March, 1914, and during his absence his post was filled by the appointment of Mr. M. J. Breen.

Mr. R. H. Crofton (late Chief Clerk) was promoted to the post of Assistant Government Secretary, Zanzibar, and left to take up his duties on 4th January, 1914.

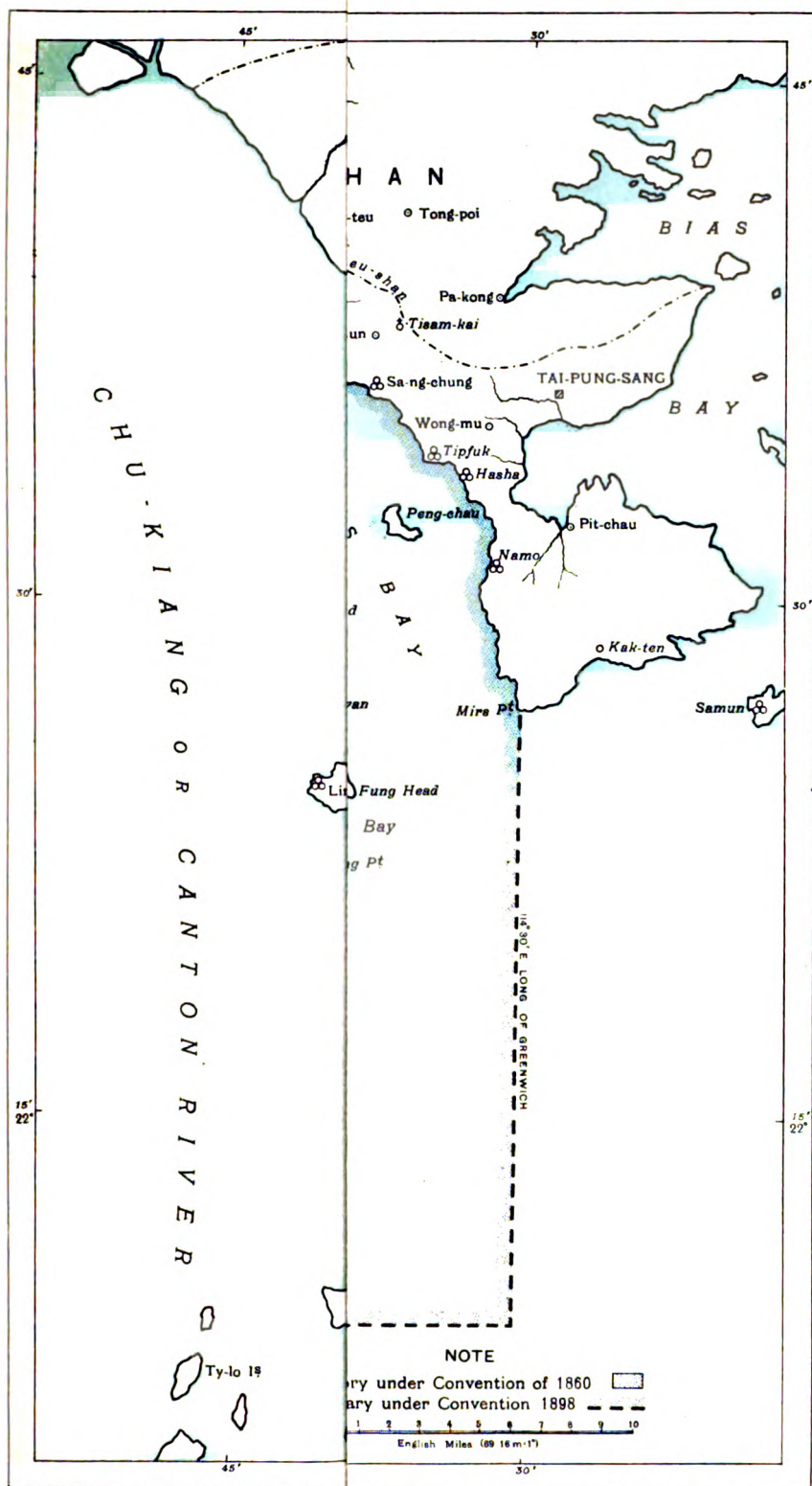
CLAUD SEVERN,

Colonial Secretary.

29th June, 1915.

DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE COLONY OF HONGKONG DURING 1914.

	Small-pox.	Measles.	Typhoid Fever.	Diphtheria.	Cholera.	Diarrhoea.	Dysentery.	Plague.	Malarial Fever.	Fueral Fever.	Septic Infections.	Syphilis.	Poisoning.	Injuries.	Alcoholism.	Developmental Diseases.	Old Age.	General Tuberculosis.	Beri-beri.	Cancer.	Paralysis and Convulsions.	Heart Disease.	Pneumonia.	Phthisis and Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Enteritis and Gas-ro-Enteritis.	Cirrhosis of Liver.	Peritonitis.	Nephritis.	Other causes.	Unknown.	All causes.	
British and Foreign Community	Civil ...	2	1	4	1	...	2	5	48	5	4	2	...	10	3	4	5	3	2	6	7	9	17	26	3	1	...	...	4	66	3	343
	Army	...	...	1	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	4	2	1	...	...	...	10	...	24	
	Navy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	8
Chinese Community	Victoria and Peak...	18	...	52	22	11	71	123	1219	73	9	51	192	8	51	...	555	81	214	217	21	257	84	611	401	322	17	24	34	921	131	5340
	Harbour	...	...	7	5	4	5	24	83	54	5	3	...	16	...	21	116	9	60	2	1	14	71	148	20	4	6	5	189	150	937	
	Kowloon	...	...	8	9	...	18	35	637	56	...	23	11	1	19	1	60	118	46	69	5	9	52	238	183	31	4	10	24	299	122	2128
	Shanghai	...	...	2	1	1	10	6	28	11	1	...	2	1	6	...	5	16	2	19	1	...	25	30	20	...	...	...	...	36	18	245
	Aberdeen	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	20	...	...	...	2	...	...	19	1	2	...	...	...	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	74
	Stanley	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	20	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	9	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	43
Total, 1914	...	91	4	74	38	16	106	197	2020	241	15	81	200	10	106	4	645	300	275	309	96	273	160	996	769	397	26	40	67	1481	426	9585
" 1913	...	84	4	90	60	84	110	212	986	230	17	81	204	17	209	3	365	362	381	389	51	423	163	1164	911	211	28	54	156	1822	676	8436



COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
820	Jamaica	1913-1914
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	"
823	Zanzibar	"
824	Barbados	1913-1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	"
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913-1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Wei-hai-wei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON.
PRINTED BY THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.
1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 857.

BECHUANALAND PRO-
TECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1914—1915.

(For Report for 1913—14 see No. 815.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 7622-48]. Price 1d.

CONTENTS

	PAGE.
FINANCIAL	4
PUBLIC WORKS	5
TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	5
LEGISLATION	6
EDUCATION	6
JUDICIAL STATISTICS	6
POSTAL STATISTICS	7
GENERAL	7
SKETCH MAP.	

No. 857.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 815.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,

Cape Town,

August 21st, 1915.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of the Bechuanaland Protectorate forwarding the Annual Report of the territory for the year ended March 31st, 1915, together with the Blue Book return.

I have &c.,

BUXTON,

High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,

&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,

Mafeking,

July 31st, 1915.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, together with the Government Secretary's Report thereon, for the year 1914-15.

I have, &c.,

F. W. PANZERA,

Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency

The High Commissioner,

Pretoria.

This industry, as may be surmised, suffered greatly from the three years' drought above mentioned, but owing to the rains of last spring and a sufficiency of grass and water, it may be expected to recover quickly, especially if, as seems probable, sufficient rain falls during the coming spring and summer.

A good beginning has been made to establish systematic sheep dipping throughout the territory. A sheep inspector was appointed at the beginning of the year. Eighteen dips were erected and 51,053 sheep and goats were dipped under his supervision. At the beginning of the year there were 198 flocks infected with scab in the region dealt with, and on the 31st of March this number was reduced to eighteen.

A certain amount of mining work has been done by the Tati Company, the output of which was 5,896 ozs. of gold and 1,360 ozs. of silver, valued at £24,685 3s. 0d.

LEGISLATION.

Twenty-six Proclamations having legislative effect were issued during the year as enumerated in the Blue Book, one of which, No. 23 of 1914, entitled the Revision of Laws Proclamation has, as its name implies, consolidated the legislation and made it possible to publish the law of the country up to date in one complete volume. This work of revision, upon which much labour and care were expended, was begun by Mr. Barry May, now Treasurer in Basutoland, and completed by Mr. Myles Williams, Assistant Resident Magistrate at Gaberones.

Many of the other Proclamations may be said to be extraordinary, being due to the exigencies of the war, but other important measures are Proclamation No. 6 of 1915, which regulates promotion and appointments in the Public Service ; and Proclamation No. 65 of 1914, which provides for retiring gratuities to native police.

EDUCATION.

There are seven European and thirty-seven native schools in the Protectorate, most of which receive grants-in-aid. School fees are charged as a rule except in the Bakwena, Bangwaketsie, and Bamalete Reserves, where a tribally imposed contribution of 2s., payable by each taxpayer, enables the tribal committees to dispense with fees.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

One person was convicted of murder but the death sentence was commuted by the High Commissioner to one of imprisonment for life. There were eleven cases of culpable homicide, in five of which conviction followed ; one of rape, in which the accused was acquitted ;

seventy cases of stock theft, with forty-six convictions ; one hundred and six cases of other offences against property, with sixty-nine convictions ; sixty cases of other offences against the person, with thirty-nine convictions ; and two hundred miscellaneous charges, with one hundred and fifty-seven convictions.

These figures are exclusive of cases tried in the Native Courts, of which no record is kept.

POSTAL STATISTICS.

No new post offices were opened during the year and no alterations were made in the postal services, except that the office at Tsessebe has been temporarily closed.

The number of postal orders sold was 12,245 of the value of £6,032 17s. 6d., and 3,108 orders, of the value of £2,325 5s. 0d. paid.

There were 11 post offices open in the Protectorate ; 231,413 letters and cards, 5,343 newspapers, book and sample packets, and 1,755 parcels were posted during the year.

The value of postage stamps sold was £2,540 13s. 4d., an increase over the estimates of £1,140 13s. 4d., which is attributed to the increased demand by philatelists for Protectorate postage stamps.

GENERAL.

The only event of political importance which took place during the year was the settlement of the followers of the late Chief Sekgoma Letsholathebe in N'Gamiland and the neighbouring Crown land. These people had followed the late chief into exile in such numbers that it was found necessary to make provision for them. This has now been done on the basis of a compromise, the Government and the Chief Mathiba each contributing a tract of country, which, together, is considered sufficient for them, and it is hoped that this matter, which has been the cause of much trouble and anxiety to the Administration for several years, has now been finally settled.

J. C. MACGREGOR,

Maferiking,
31st July, 1915.

Government Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	"
823	Zanzibar	"
824	Barbados	1913-1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	"
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913-1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

No. 858.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1914–15.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 813.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 7622–49.] Price 2d.

Dup. U. of G.
L 3

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE	6
AGRICULTURE	7
VETERINARY	7
EDUCATION	10
LEGISLATION	12
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	13
PUBLIC WORKS	14
GAOLS	14
CRIME AND POLICE	14
MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH	15
GENERAL	16
MAP.	

No. 858.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 813.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Cape Town,

21st August, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland forwarding the Annual Report and Blue Book for the year ended March 31st, 1915.

I have, &c.,

BUXTON,

High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,

&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,

Maseru,

26th July, 1915.

My LORD,

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year ended 31st March, 1915, together with the Annual Report for the same period.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,

Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency,

The Right Hon. Viscount Buxton, P.C., G.C.M.G.,

High Commissioner for South Africa.

BASUTOLAND ANNUAL REPORT, 1914-15.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue of Basutoland collected during the financial year ended the 31st of March, amounted to £151,611, and the ordinary expenditure to £160,932. In addition to ordinary expenditure a sum of £9,152 was spent on the completion of undertakings which had been previously authorised in connection with expenditure from capital, that is from funds representing the accumulated surpluses of former years. In all a sum of £112,843 has been spent on the following:—

	£
Hospitals	13,513
Bridges and Roads	29,532
Agriculture	12,230
Water supplies	6,607
Headquarter offices	5,480
Telephone lines	6,822
Leper Settlement	37,259
Sundry	1,400
	<hr/>
	£112,843

The following table shows the revenue collected during the past three years:—

Revenue.

	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15
	£	£	£
Native Tax	97,722	96,393	97,436
Customs	43,947	45,214	34,898
Post Office	5,096	5,287	5,409
Licences	* 6,228	* 5,922	3,821
Fees of Court or Office	402	473	593
Individual Fines	—	—	2,611
Fees for Services rendered	—	—	2,576
Interest	4,892	4,538	3,410
Miscellaneous Receipts	† 3,225	† 3,590	857
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total .. £	161,512	161,417	151,611

* In these figures are included Individual Fines.

† Fees for services rendered are included in these amounts.

It will be seen that the drop of £10,000 from the total of the previous year is accounted for under one item (Customs), receipts from which depend on the Customs collections in the Union of South Africa. There is a considerable shrinkage in interest due to reduction in funds available for investment. With these exceptions the figures of revenue may be regarded as decidedly favourable, considering the many adverse circumstances experienced during the year. The outbreak of the European war immediately deprived Basutoland of a market for wool (since recovered) and closed the field of labour, a very popular one, previously provided by the diamond mines. In addition to this the long continued drought lasted well into the financial year, although, fortunately, it was broken in time to save the wheat crop, representing a very large money value to the Basuto, and to ensure the success of the summer crops, mealies, and Kafir corn.

Expenditure.

The following is a return of the expenditure during the last three years:—

	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15
	£	£	£
Establishments	15,110	15,115	15,886
Police	21,055	22,243	22,923
Post Office	4,586	4,963	5,127
Allowances to Chiefs, etc. ..	6,764	7,034	11,271
Office Contingencies	3,089	2,690	2,130
Administration of Justice ..	4,088	4,323	4,727
Public Works Recurrent	40,503	32,170	24,060
Public Works Extraordinary ..	—	12,205	4,029
Medical	11,687	13,680	13,516
Education	14,657	16,771	18,544
Rewards for Special Services ..	131	86	—
Audit	375	514	507
Miscellaneous	4,910	6,708	1,204
Agriculture	18,186	7,999	5,967
Prevention of east coast fever	—	10,195	9,940
National Council	1,312	1,411	2,013
Pensions	2,879	3,805	3,995
Leper Settlement	—	3,707	15,093
Medical Expenses	1,347	—	—
Revenue Services	186	—	—
Capital expenditure	20,900	37,842	9,152
Total .. £	171,765	203,461	170,084

These figures indicate the efforts which have been made to reduce expenditure wherever possible in view of the drop in revenue and uncertainty as to the future. Were it not for the fresh liability incurred by the Leper Settlement, on which it was necessary to spend the large sum of over £15,000 during the year, a balance between receipts and payments would have been easily attained.

The following is a statement of assets and liabilities on the 31st March, 1915 :—

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand of Sub-Accountants	13,400	4	5
Balance at Standard Bank of South Africa ..	14,565	16	11
Balance in hand of Crown Agents	1,252	4	7
On loan to Swaziland Administration	72,500	0	0
Advances recoverable	120	8	8
	<hr/>		
	£101,838	14	7
	<hr/>		

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits from Master of Court ..	5,984	2	10			
Deposits from Labour Agents ..	1,100	0	0			
Contribution from Basuto to Prince of Wales's War Relief Fund..	2,477	15	1			
	<hr/>			9,561	17	11
Balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities ..				92,276	16	8
				<hr/>		
				£101,838	14	7
				<hr/>		

TRADE.

The depression caused by the successive droughts referred to in the last two reports continued to be felt for the first nine months of the year under review.

The unprecedented quantity of grain imported for native food, as previously foreshadowed, was bound to affect to a very considerable degree the ordinary sale of merchandise in the Territory, and, although statistics are not available, it is feared there has been a marked falling off in the value of imports.

At the beginning of 1915, however, a happier state of things was noticeable, as, owing to plentiful rains, the crops made rapid progress, and money which had been kept in hand for the purchase of food was released for other requirements.

The wheat harvest was a fairly good one in comparison with the quantity reaped during the last few years, but is still far below the average of the records of years gone by.

Quality, it is understood, has been maintained, and may even show some improvement, especially in regard to the absence of smut.

Maize and Kafir corn crops were sufficiently matured to resist frost, which came unusually early this season, and there should be sufficient food for the requirements of the people, and a surplus for export.

The quantity and quality of both wool and mohair, have probably been evenly maintained during the past year, but it is doubted if there has been any advance in either respect, as flocks have suffered from the effects of drought, rendering any improvement in staple unlikely, and losses have been considerable, so that there cannot have been any large increase in the number of the flocks. For the autumn shearing, full prices were obtained, but for the spring shearing prices fell very low, owing to conditions brought about by the war. There has, however, been a considerable recovery since then, and it is thought that prices for the coming shearing season will be in favour of the native flock masters.

Horned cattle, in common with all live stock, have suffered most severely owing to scarcity of pasture, and losses have been very heavy indeed. Poor condition of stock and indifferent markets have necessarily led to low prices. The summer rains, and a brisker demand for cattle, coupled with improved conditions, have brought about a considerable appreciation in prices during the last few months, however.

The supply of native labour, both for mining and other industries, has been well sustained, but the demand has been less keen, as a consequence of the closing down of certain mines.

AGRICULTURE.

Though the season of 1914-15 has, on the whole, been one of the best for agriculture throughout Basutoland, it is most unfortunate that there should have been a bad drought since February which has spoilt what would otherwise have been an unusually good year. This failure of the latter rains is not common. As it is, on the whole, the crops of wheat, maize, and Kafir-corn are good throughout the Territory.

Owing to lack of funds it has not been possible to undertake fresh work in the direction of tree planting and donga prevention.

VETERINARY.

The severe drought of the summer of 1913-14 was followed by a very bad spring, and thousands of head of cattle died of poverty. In the absence of Customs returns it is difficult to give an estimate of the number of these deaths from poverty, but in one district alone it has been ascertained from statistics obtained from traders, that no less than 20,000 head of cattle died, and as in certain other districts the drought conditions were much worse, there is little doubt but that the losses in these districts were in a far greater proportion.

The serious drought was not broken until the end of November and this reacted very adversely on the lambing season, a big percentage of this year's lambs succumbing for want of sufficient milk.

From the end of November until the end of February, good rains fell and the sudden saturation of the soil after such a prolonged period of drought, associated with considerable heat, produced for insect and bacterial life ideal conditions for multiplication, with the result that anthrax, horse-sickness, and blue tongue broke out, causing a serious mortality in cattle, horses, and sheep during the latter part of the summer.

The position with regard to east coast fever is satisfactory, no cases having occurred in the Territory, and the outlook on the Natal border generally having continued to improve. The disease in East Griqualand has not spread any nearer to our border, but fresh outbreaks have occurred in the Mount Fletcher districts, and it will be necessary to continue keeping a sharp look-out on this border, especially in view of the disposition of stock owners in the Transkei to evade restrictions imposed by the Union Government. During the year, 481 slides have been examined microscopically by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon, most of these having been sent in by Stock Inspectors stationed along the borders carrying out east coast fever precautions. During the year a port of entry to Natal was opened for cattle through Bushman's Nek Gate in the Qachas Nek District, all cattle using the gate being inspected by the officer-in-charge of the police post at Sehlabathebes and being passed as "Tick free." This concession has been of considerable benefit to traders and natives, and the conditions of export appear to have worked satisfactorily.

The meteorological conditions during the summer appear to have been very suitable for the spores of anthrax, and eight serious outbreaks of this disease have been dealt with by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon, who, however, is of opinion that other outbreaks have occurred in the Territory. The worst outbreak was at Roma in the Maseru district, where 40 head of cattle died in fourteen days. All cattle who had come into contact with the infected animals were inoculated with good results. At other centres of infection contact herds were inoculated, apparently with excellent effect, the disease being cut short almost immediately. The importance of leaving carcasses intact and of suitable burial was pointed out to all owners.

The theory that horsesickness did not exist in Basutoland was completely broken down this year, and during February and March a considerable mortality occurred, extending on the western area of the Territory from north to south. It is difficult to estimate what deaths took place, but every district suffered. In Maseru seven deaths occurred, and one constantly heard of horses dying at numerous centres in the Maseru district. Morija appeared to suffer badly, and letters were constantly received from missionaries and natives reporting this "strange" equine disease, and asking for advice and treatment. It is to be noted that this outbreak coincided with a marked and unusual prevalence of nocturnal insects, such as mosquitoes, but, assuming these insects are the carriers of the disease, it would be interesting to know from where, after a lapse of certainly many years, they obtained the infection. The outbreak in Basutoland coincided with a similar outbreak in the neighbouring Orange Free State, where some horse breeders suffered very severe losses.

Very considerable losses from blue tongue were experienced by sheep-owners this summer throughout all the lower areas of Basutoland. Long experience has shown that the meteorological conditions that are suitable for horsesickness suit those for blue tongue in sheep, and this was well illustrated in Basutoland. The indirect losses from wool and condition are almost as great as the actual mortality, and in travelling through Basutoland in the autumn it was quite easy to see the flocks that had been infected with this disease.

In view of the prevalence of horsesickness, anthrax, and blue tongue, advisory circulars were sent to all Assistant Commissioners for the information of natives dealing with these diseases, personal advice either through correspondence or visits was rendered on a large scale, and a large amount of medicine was issued for the treatment of infected flocks. •

Equine and ovine parasites have been very prevalent, large numbers of sheep having succumbed to the *strongylus contortus* after the rains. Native owners readily recognise parasiticism in equines, and bring large numbers for treatment, but they are not so alive to the important part played by parasites, affecting the welfare of their flocks. Owing to the effects of the drought, the cattle and horses became badly infected with mange and lice in the spring months, and a large number of infected animals were dipped, with very good results.

The scarcity of food resulting from the drought proved a predisposing factor in favour of scab in sheep, and the scarcity of water, owing to the failure of springs, has militated adversely against dipping operations, several dipping tanks having for a time been rendered useless, owing to an inadequate water supply. Despite all the adverse conditions seriously interfering with the measures against scab, 242,100 sheep and goats were dipped for the treatment of scab, and an additional 42,014 were dipped prior to export into the Union, in terms of the Scab Regulations, making a total of 284,114.

The continuance of the drought until the end of November affected our endeavours in carrying out the stud work very adversely, many of the mares dying and becoming poverty stricken, and although only 28 abortions were reported, there is little doubt many more took place. During the previous season 470 mares were covered by Government stallions, and 173 live foals were born, and, considering the very trying climatic conditions that have existed during this period, the result is more satisfactory than anticipated. With the advent of rains in November conditions became more favourable for stud work, and it is hoped that a bigger percentage of foals will be returned for next season. During recent shows, one had very good evidence of the influence of the good sire in the country, and some of the young stock sired by Government stallions would not have disgraced an Orange Free State Show. This was particularly the case at the Maseru Show.

EDUCATION.

Though an increase in the daily average attendance of pupils in schools throughout the Territory is to be recorded, there has been a considerable drop in the relative rate of increase.

During the four years preceding 1914, the average annual increase was well over 1,800; this year the increase was only 573 as the following table shows:—

TABLE I.

Table of Total Average Attendance in Schools and Institutions.

Year ending December.			Year ending December.			Increase.
1902	..	9,057	1909	..	9,498	219
1903	..	10,024	1910	..	11,651	2,153
1904	..	10,041	1911	..	13,417	1,766
1905	..	9,963	1912	..	15,271	1,854
1906	..	9,704	1913	..	17,070	1,799
1907	..	9,454	1914	..	17,643	573
1908	..	9,279				

However, in view of drought and epidemics of sickness it may be considered satisfactory that the schools instead of showing a decrease were able to maintain and improve their position.

In the following tables the enrolment and attendance of pupils in elementary schools are shown apart from those of pupils in institutions:—

TABLE II.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1913.			Number of Pupils on Roll, December, 1914.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	6,560	11,203	17,763	6,327	11,762	18,089
Church of England	905	1,611	2,516	869	1,661	2,530
Roman Catholic	323	1,497	1,820	336	1,560	1,896
	7,788	14,311	22,099	7,532	14,983	22,515

TABLE III.

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Year ending December, 1913.			Year ending December, 1914.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	5,001	8,296	13,297	4,810	8,751	13,561
Church of England..	641	1,171	1,812	665	1,267	1,932
Roman Catholic	252	1,158	1,410	291	1,299	1,590
	5,894	10,625	16,519	5,766	11,317	17,083

TABLE IV.

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institution.	Church or other controlling agency.	Number of Pupils on roll December, 1914.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija (Normal)	P.E.M.S.	158	—	158
Th. Morena (Normal and Industrial)	„	—	50	50
Leloaleng (Industrial) ..	„	70	—	70
Masite (Normal and Industrial) ..	C. of E.	21	—	21
Maseru (Industrial)	„	—	18	18
Roma (Normal, Industrial, and Agricultural) ..	R.C.	62	234	296
		311	302	613

During the year an Assistant Inspector has been appointed to take over the inspection of the southern portion of the Territory. Additional inspection of schools had long been desirable, and the outbreak of the war and the consequent call of many of the missionaries to the front, made some additional help in the matter of school inspection urgently necessary.

TABLE V.

Pupils in European Schools.

	Roll on last day of quarter ending 31st March, 1914.	Roll on last day of quarter ending 31st March, 1915.
Leribe	6	14
Teyateyaneng	11	13
Maseru	33	39
Mafeteng	21	23
Mohale's Hoek	—	6

Table V. shows the number of pupils in Government-aided schools for European children. These schools provide an elementary education and are established in five out of the seven magisterial camps in the Territory. In the two remaining camps there are as yet insufficient children of school age to justify the establishment of schools. Parents of children living at some distance from the camps make their own arrangements for their children's education, and in nearly all cases give their children the best education their means will allow.

LEGISLATION.

The following are among the more important Proclamations issued by His Excellency the High Commissioner during the year under report :—

(1) The Basutoland Copyright (Prohibited Importation) Proclamation, 1914.

(2) A Proclamation (No. 15 of 1914) making provision against and prescribing penalties for dealing with infringing copies of a work in which copyright exists.

(3) Customs Proposed Duties Procedure Proclamation, 1914, with an amending Proclamation (No. 28 of 1914).

(4) Spirits and Beer Proposed Duties Procedure Proclamation, 1914.

(5) Plumage Birds Protection and Preservation Proclamation, 1914, prohibiting with certain exceptions the sale in, and the exportation from, the Territory of the plumage and skins of wild birds.

(6) A Proclamation (No. 59 of 1914) providing for the establishment of a censorship of postal and telegraphic matter in Basutoland.

(7) A Proclamation (No. 66 of 1914) to control during the present war the dissemination of news in the Territory and to prevent the spread of false intelligence or matter calculated to create alarm or to excite public feeling.

(8) Customs Management Proclamation, 1914.

(9) Customs Tariff Proclamation, 1914.

(10) Native Women Restriction Proclamation, 1915, prohibiting native women residing in Basutoland from leaving the Territory against the will of their husbands, fathers, or natural guardians.

(11) Public Service Proclamation, 1915, repealing the Public Service Proclamation, 1910, and proclaiming new regulations governing appointments to, and promotions in, the Public Service of Basutoland.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Post Office.

An additional Postal Agency has been established at Koeneng in the Leribe District, rendered necessary owing to the increased needs of the native population for postal facilities in that district.

The net postal and telegraph revenue for the year amounted to £5,366 1s. 1d., of which the sums of £2,857 15s. 9d. and £1,888 10s. 5d. were for the sale of postage stamps and stamps on telegrams respectively. In addition the sum of £125 1s. 9d. was collected on cable traffic, being an increase over last year's collections of £36 8s. 0d.

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years are shown in the following table :—

		1913-14.		1914-15.	
<i>Deposits.</i>					
Number	..	1,016	..	889	
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Value	..	6,544 3 6	..	6,065 2 0	
<i>Withdrawals.</i>					
Number	..	308	..	377	
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Value	..	4,509 12 11	..	5,510 19 4	

It will be observed that the total number of deposits was 127 less than in the previous year, whilst the withdrawals were 69 more, and that the average amount of each deposit was less than half the average amount of each withdrawal. This is an unfortunate state of things, the more so as Savings Bank business had begun to show most satisfactory signs of development in Basutoland, but it is due unquestionably to the general disturbance of conditions in South Africa by the

war in Europe, and it is hoped that there will be a full recovery in proper time.

The following comparative table shows the number and amount of money orders and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

Year.	Issued.		Paid.	
	Number.	Amount. £	Number.	Amount. £
1913-14 ..	28,532	40,450	20,530	38,098
1914-15 ..	27,493	39,031	19,282	31,436
Decrease ..	1,039	£1,419	1,248	£6,662

PUBLIC WORKS.

The bridge over the Caledon River at Peka which was begun in August, 1913, is now complete and open for traffic. It is an iron girder bridge on masonry piers, the centre span being 150 feet and the two side spans 100 feet each. A small bridge near Morija on the main road south has been built over a stream called the Lerato and is proving a great convenience to the public. An addition of new accommodation for female prisoners has been made to the gaol at Maseru, the work being carried out by the Government Industrial School. Additional cells have also been built at Mohale's Hoek gaol. The hutting for the police at various stations has now been completed.

GAOLS.

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in Basutoland, and during the year under review, 1,161 prisoners passed through them as compared with 964 during the year 1913-14.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The Police Force of the Territory on the 31st March, 1915, was of the following strength :—

European Inspectors	3
European Sub-Inspectors	10
European Constables	9
Native Officers	3
Native Constables	1
Native Sergeants	10
Native Corporals	14
Native Privates	262
Native Special Police	214

The native special police shown above are employed as border guards in the Quthing and Qachas Nek Districts as a precautionary measure against the introduction of east coast fever into the Territory from Natal or East Griqualand. They are not uniformed, with the exception of an arm badge, but, like the regular force, are mounted. Owing to the improved outlook as regards east coast fever, it has been possible to reduce the number of these special police on the Qachas Nek-Natal border, but it has been considered advisable to augment their numbers on the Quthing-East Griqualand border. However, a total reduction of about 50 has been effected.

The following table shows the convictions for liquor smuggling during the last seven years, but it is feared that the number of arrests made is small in comparison with the number of undetected smugglers :—

1908-09	..	..	..	..	79	convictions,
1909-10	..	..	..	..	90	„
1910-11	..	..	..	..	148	„
1911-12 (9 months ended 31st March, 1912)	..	..	..	..	100	„
1912-13	..	..	..	..	186	„
1913-14	..	..	..	..	222	„
1914-15	..	..	..	..	160	„

From this table it will be noticed that there is a considerable reduction in the number of convictions for liquor smuggling, the first reduction in fact that can be shown. An increased use appears to be being made of a liquor called “qhalí,” an intoxicating compound made from a distillation of golden syrup, the traffic in which it is most difficult to control. This, together with the energetic efforts of the police, probably combine as the cause of the reduction. It is probable also that the example of the Paramount Chief Griffith, who is an abstainer, has had its influence in this matter. He has himself assisted the police to effect arrests, and the encouragement he has given by his example and actions to the suppression of liquor smuggling has doubtless made itself felt among the chiefs and people, and has been an indirect assistance to the police.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The following table shows the number of patients treated at the Government hospitals and dispensaries for the last two years :—

Year.	In-patients.	Out-patients (new cases).	Out-patients (subsequent attendance).
1913-14	1,977	40,195	10,976
1914-15	1,850	38,619	13,477

The epidemic of small-pox which was prevalent in certain districts of southern Basutoland last year has died out. In July, 1914, there was a slight outbreak in the Mohale's Hoek district, which lingered on till October, the total number of cases being 30, but no deaths. There were minor outbreaks in the Mafeteng district (10 cases, no deaths) and Maseru district (8 cases, 1 death); but since October last no cases have been reported from any of the districts. The number of vaccinations performed during the year was 30,042.

There has been a severe outbreak of enteric fever throughout the Territory: 600 cases were seen at the dispensaries and 112 cases were admitted into hospital, of whom 20 died. Many of the latter had been brought long distances and were in the second week of the disease on admission into the hospitals. Reports of severe outbreaks with a high mortality were received from missionaries, traders, and others, and the 600 cases seen as out-patients do not represent more than a tithe of the total number of cases in the Territory. Dysentery was prevalent, but the disease was of a mild type. There was a slight increase in the ratio of tuberculosis to other diseases, being 73 per cent. for the year under review, as against 66 per cent. for 1913, while the total number of cases increased from 268 in 1913 to 285 in 1914.

Owing to the large number of attendances at the dispensaries which, in spite of the slight reduction shown in the figures for the year under report, is too large to be dealt with satisfactorily by one doctor, the fee payable by native out-patients has been raised from 6d. to 1s.

The Leper Settlement at Botsabelo has passed through a trying year. The total number of natives gathered from the whole Territory and certified and sent to the asylum was 693; 65 were treated as suspects and instructed to come up again for examination after periods varying from three to six months. Escapes from the asylum have been not infrequent; the escaped lepers are in many cases still at large. On the 31st March there were 458 inmates. The total number of deaths at the Settlement during the year under review was 94 males and 55 females. There were 13 discharged as arrested cases.

GENERAL.

In April the Annual Meeting of the National Council was held. Nothing of importance beyond the domestic concerns of the tribe was discussed.

Towards the latter end of June the High Commissioner, Lord Gladstone, paid a flying visit to Basutoland. The Paramount and principal Chiefs came into Maseru to pay their respects to him on his departure from South Africa.

On the outbreak of the European war the Paramount and other Chiefs sent in to the Resident Commissioner expressions of loyalty, and asked in what way they could assist the Imperial Government.

Realising it was useless to offer their services in any military capacity, the Paramount Chief started a voluntary collection from the tribe towards the Prince of Wales's Fund, and though the lists are not yet finally closed, some £2,000 has been deposited with Government. On completion of the collection the amount will be remitted through the High Commissioner.

The closing of the diamond mines threw a great number of Basuto labourers out of work. The diamond mines being more popular than the gold mines, the great majority of the labourers were in the habit of going to work there. After waiting for a period to see whether the diamond mines would reopen, these labourers gradually began going to the gold mines, and the number of passes issued to native labourers to proceed to work on the gold mines amounted to 29,523.

The season has been an excellent one; large quantities of wheat have been harvested, and maize and Kafir-corn are sufficiently advanced to warrant an anticipated heavy yield.

Inter-tribal disturbances have been conspicuous by their absence excepting in the Berea district, where a local headman, Phatso Mota refused to obey the orders of his Chief, Masupha, and in consequence had his stock raided. The case was dealt with by the Resident Commissioner in conjunction with the Paramount Chief and his councillors.

Several officers of the Administration have been granted leave to serve either with Union or Imperial forces during the course of the war.

CHAS. E. BOYES,

Government Secretary,

Basutoland.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.			
No.	Colony, &c.	—	Year.
822	Grenada		1913
823	Zanzibar		"
824	Barbados		1913-1914
825	Southern Nigeria		1913
826	Mauritius		"
827	British Honduras		"
828	Colonial Survey Committee		1913-1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate		"
830	Swaziland		"
831	Uganda		"
832	Nyasaland		"
833	British Guiana		"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology		1914
835	St. Vincent		1913-1914
836	St. Lucia		"
837	Somaliland		"
838	Straits Settlements		1913
839	Cayman Islands		1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate		"
841	Leeward Islands		"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands		"
843	Zanzibar		1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands		"
845	Wei-hai-wei		"
846	Seychelles		"
847	St. Helena		"
848	Fiji		"
849	Bahamas		1914-1915
850	Gibraltar		1914
851	Sierra Leone		"
852	Grenada		1914-1915
853	Bermuda		1914
854	Malta		1914-1915
855	Ceylon		1914
856	Hong Kong		"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate		1914-1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	—	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria		Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland		Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria		Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute		Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria		Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies		Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria		Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria		Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon		Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute		Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria		Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent		Roads and Land Settlement.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

LIBRARY
DEC 22 1911

No. 859.

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 806.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE

By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 7622-50] Price 3d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I.—FINANCIAL	4
II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	10
III.—LEGISLATION	27
IV.—EDUCATION	28
V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	30
VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS	31
VII.—MEDICAL	33
VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES ..	36
IX.—RAILWAYS AND ROADS	37
X.—PUBLIC WORKS	39
XI.—SURVEYS	42
XII.—TRANSPORT	43
XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS	44
XIV.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	44
APPENDIX	46

SKETCH MAP.

By Transfer
APR 4 1919

No. 859.

GOLD COAST.

For Report for 1913 see No. 806

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Accra,

14th August, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward, herewith, six copies of the Gold Coast Blue Book for 1914, together with the usual report thereon.

The report has been compiled this year by Captain Cookson, Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary, and I have pleasure in inviting your attention to the care and ability with which he has performed his task.

The report itself does not need much comment from me. The Colony may congratulate itself on the facts, that, despite the war its revenue exceeded all previous records, and that as regards the important cocoa and mining industries the year was one of continued prosperity. The report contains no record of the most important event of the year, viz., the invasion and occupation of Togoland in August, but the history of that highly successful campaign has already been published both here and in England.

Since the close of the year the financial condition of the Colony has caused some misgivings owing to the decline in Customs and Railway revenue consequent on restricted shipping facilities, but signs are not wanting that the Colony will soon recover from this temporary set-back.

I have, &c.,

A. R. SLATER,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

I.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The revenue for the year amounted to £1,331,713, or £30,147 in excess of the revenue for 1913.

The increases and decreases under the several heads, as compared with the figures for the year 1913, are shown in the appended table :—

Heads of Revenue.	Actual Revenue to 31st Dec., 1914.	Revenue for the same period of the preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs	768,829	779,593	—	10,764
2. Light Dues	2,896	2,956	—	60
3. Licences, &c.	48,062	43,354	4,708	—
4. Fees of Court, &c. ..	53,561	49,903	3,658	—
5. Railways	380,716	357,329	23,387	—
6. Post and Tele- graphs	6,371	6,596	—	225
7. Rents of Govern- ment Land	1,240	1,201	39	—
8. Interest	8,843	3,416	5,427	—
9. Ashanti	50,095	49,882	213	—
10. Northern Terri- tories	3,696	3,709	—	13
11. Miscellaneous	7,343	3,548	3,795	—
12. Land Sales,	61	79	—	18
Total	1,331,713	1,301,566	41,227	11,080

The receipts under the head Customs during the period January to July showed an increase of no less than £125,365 over and above the Customs revenue for the corresponding seven months in 1913. A portion of this increase is attributable to the additional duty on spirits at 9d. per gallon (with decremental scale) imposed as from the 30th August, 1913. The prospect, however, of obtaining a record Customs revenue was not destined to be fulfilled. As a result of the war the remaining five months showed a decrease of no less than £136,129, making a net decrease of £10,764 for the whole year as compared with 1913.

It is substantially due to the increase under the head Railways (£23,387) that the total revenue for the year has overtopped that for 1913. This increase has been derived from a larger volume of produce carried by the Railway: the quantity of cocoa exported during the year was the largest so far recorded, and this in spite of the fact that

the Railway revenue, in common with the Customs, showed a marked decline during the last five months.

The increase under the head Interest is due to the investment of surplus balances, temporarily lent to carry on loan works, which have now been released by the raising of the loan of £1,035,000 during the year (Ordinance No. 6 of 1910).

The yearly revenues for the period 1910 to 1914 were as under :—

Year.	Value. £
1910	1,006,633
1911	1,111,632
1912	1,230,850
1913	1,301,566
1914	1,331,713

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £1,755,850, or £402,559 in excess of the expenditure in 1913.

The increases and decreases under the several heads, as compared with the figures for the year 1913, are shown in the appended table :—

Heads of Expenditure.	Actual expenditure to 31st Dec., 1914	Expenditure for the same period of the preceding year	Increase	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
1. Governor and Legislature..	8,404	10,199	—	1,795
2. Supreme Court	9,809	9,969	—	160
3. Law Officers	3,749	2,567	1,182	—
4. Secretariat	6,739	8,048	—	1,309
5. Printing Office	11,147	10,006	1,141	—
6. Native Affairs	2,101	2,482	—	381
7. Provincial and District Commissioners	31,865	30,466	1,399	—
8. General Clerical Service ..	37,928	—	37,928	—
9. Treasury	7,971	12,337	—	4,366
10. Customs	45,414	38,752	6,662	—
11. Customs—Preventive Services ..	20,933	16,975	3,958	—
12. Marine	2,412	1,405	1,007	—
13. Railways	307,061	237,599	69,462	—
13A. Railway Surveys	28,945	13,254	15,691	—
14. Posts and Telegraphs ..	35,159	37,751	—	2,592
15. Transport Department ..	4,620	2,140	3,480	—
16. Medical Department ..	56,482	56,706	—	224
17. Sanitation	47,834	36,854	10,980	—
18. Veterinary	1,415	936	479	—
19. Education	25,240	25,374	—	134
20. Agriculture.. ..	13,531	13,784	—	253
21. Forestry	4,643	5,421	—	778
22. Mines	2,415	2,254	161	—
23. Geological Survey	2,408	736	1,672	—
24. Gold Coast Regiment, W.A.F.F.	65,204	65,252	—	48
25. Volunteers	1,178	1,252	—	74

Heads of Expenditure.	Actual expenditure to 31st Dec. 1914.	Expenditure for the same period of the preceding year	Increase	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
26. Police	48,586	40,320	8,266	—
27. Prisons	18,739	17,580	1,159	—
28. Public Cemeteries	1,574	1,627	—	53
29. Audit Department	2,840	4,063	—	1,223
30. Surveys	13,492	13,590	—	98
31. Ashanti	34,257	32,478	1,779	—
32. Northern Territories	34,538	35,065	—	527
33. Northern Territories Constabulary	11,213	11,197	16	—
34. Miscellaneous Services	16,304	10,275	6,029	—
35. Pensions and Gratuities	21,534	19,409	2,125	—
36. Public Debt Charges	111,593	91,536	20,057	—
37. Public Works Department	75,055	57,169	17,886	—
38. Public Works Annually Recurrent	40,528	36,934	3,594	—
39. Public Works Extraordinary	272,906	196,892	76,014	—
40. Kumasi-Ejura Road Department	13,422	15,988	—	2,566
41. Posts and Telegraphs Extraordinary	14,394	10,897	3,497	—
42. Repayments of Loans	20,000	20,000	—	—
43. Expenditure on Loan and Special Works	163,517	95,752	67,765	—
44. War Expenses	12,995	—	12,995	—
45. Expedition to Togoland	43,756	—	43,756	—
Total	£ 1,755,850	1,353,291	419,140	16,581

The rise in expenditure is mainly due to a larger programme of works for the general development of the Colony and its dependencies, framed on a steadily increasing revenue and available surplus balances. This is illustrated by the increases under Public Works Extraordinary, Expenditure on Loan Works (being completed from revenue), Railways, Railway Surveys, and Sanitation.

Under Railways the capital charges amounted to £137,113, as compared with £95,743 in 1913, the principal items being in respect of new workshops and rolling stock. The ordinary expenditure came to £169,948, as compared with £147,365 in 1913, the increase being due to larger outlay under Maintenance of Way and Works owing to the condition of the line and to necessary provision for increased traffic.

Other increases of note are due; under Customs, to rebates of Customs duties in respect of duty-paid goods transported from East to West of the river Volta; under Police, to revision of scale of pay in certain ranks and increase in the establishment; under Miscellaneous, to unforeseen expenditure of a non-recurrent nature; under Public Debt Charges, to the first payment of half-yearly interest in respect of the loan of £1,035,000 raised during the year; and under Public Works Department, to increases in the establishment and transport charges.

The expenditure under the head General Clerical Service is in respect of a revised scale of salaries paid to the Native Clerical Staff,

whose emoluments were formerly included under the several departments.

The expenditure under the head War Expenses, namely £12,995, represents the cost of placing the Colony in a state of defence consequent upon the outbreak of war.

The total outlay during the year in respect of the Gold Coast military expedition to Togoland figured at £43,756.

The decreases are due, under Treasury, to decreased remittances to England owing to the fall in revenue since the outbreak of war; and under Kumasi-Ejura Road Department, to the completion of the road. The other decreases are mainly due to the incorporation of the pay of the clerical staff under a separate head.

The yearly expenditures for the period 1910 to 1914 were as under :—

	£
1910	924,862
1911	914,500
1912	1,157,091
1913	1,353,291
1914	1,755,850

Loan Expenditure.

The following table shows the various items of expenditure up to 31st December 1914 which have been charged to Loan Account:—

	£
Sekondi-Kumasi Railway	1,812,988
Accra-Akwapim Railway	300,000
Tarkwa-Prestea-Broomassie Railway	135,000
Accra Harbour Works	158,000
Sekondi Harbour Works	164,883
Accra Water Works	200,000
Sekondi Water Works	118,274
	<hr/>
	£2,889,145

In addition to the above sums charged to loan account, expenditure has been defrayed from revenue in respect of special works as under :—

Accra Harbour Works	1912	£21,081	
Do.	1913	20,650	
Do.	1914	37,527	
		<hr/>	£79,258
Accra-Akwapim Railway	1912	£68,656	
Do.	1913	16,211	
Do.	1914	37	
		<hr/>	84,904
Tarkwa-Prestea-Broomassie Railway	1912	.. .. .	26,837
Accra Water Works	1913	£18,819	
Do.	1914	49,413	
		<hr/>	68,232
		<hr/>	<hr/>
			£259,231

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of Assets over Liabilities on the 1st January 1914 was £887,843. At the close of the year this excess was reduced to £463,706, the decrease of £424,137 representing the excess of expenditure over revenue for the year.

At the end of the year the amount of the Colony's surplus funds advanced at call by the Crown Agents stood at £368,000.

The Occupation of Togoland Account, which is shown as a liability, is made up as follows :—

Captured Money	..	..	£14,946
Revenue Account	..	..	9,366
			<hr/>
			£24,312
Expenditure Account	..	..	9,726
			<hr/>
Balance	..	..	£14,586
			<hr/>

The actual position at the close of the year cannot, however, be determined until the revenue and expenditure accounts from the French Government have been received.

The value of the railway stores at the close of the year was £77,729, of the Public Works Unallocated Stores £16,947, and of the Posts and Telegraphs Unallocated Stores £2,185.

Public Debt.

At the close of the year the Public Debt of the Colony amounted to £3,464,118, as compared with £2,449,118 on the 31st December 1913, the difference being due to the raising of the loan of £1,035,000 and the repayment of the sum of £20,000 to the Imperial Government during the year.

The new loan was based on the issue of £1,035,000 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock at £98 10s. 0d. per cent., and the amount realized during the year is calculated as under :—

Calls paid during the year	..	..	..	£1,019,300
Interest on over-due instalments	..	..	..	1,226
Refund of Stamp Duty	..	..	..	38
				<hr/>
				£1,020,564
Less Expenses in connection with issue	..			26,754
				<hr/>
Net amount realized	..	..		£993,810
				<hr/>

At the close of the year there were outstanding calls amounting to £175.

The amount standing to the credit of the Sinking Fund for the redemption of the funded portion of the Public Debt on the 31st December 1914 was £154,581, as against £128,211 at the end of 1913, £21,280 having been contributed from general revenue during the year, and £5,090 being the interest on investments.

Currency.

British gold and silver coins, and British West African silver coins (introduced into West Africa in June 1913) are legal tender to any amount throughout the Colony and its Dependencies: also British bronze coins and British West African nickel coins up to one shilling.

Municipal Bodies.

Town Councils have been established in the towns of Accra, Cape Coast, and Sekondi under the provisions of the Town Councils Ordinance of 1894.

Each Council consists of eight members, of whom four are officials, nominated by the Governor, and four are elected by the ratepayers. The Governor has power to appoint four members to represent the ratepayers if there is no election through the failure of voters to nominate.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Town Councils for the past five years:—

Revenue.

	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Accra	6,227	7,446	8,630	9,537	11,156
Sekondi	2,830	4,538	4,511	4,734	5,521
Cape Coast ..	2,206	3,073	3,495	3,890	5,288

Expenditure.

	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Accra	7,702	7,457	8,022	10,637	11,340
Sekondi	2,907	3,906	4,769	5,172	5,551
Cape Coast ..	2,175	2,754	3,349	3,547	3,966

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports.

The total value of imports during 1914 (exclusive of expenses on specie and of the value of free goods imported across the inland frontiers) was £4,456,968, a decrease of £495,526 or 10 per cent. as compared with 1913, but an increase of £433,644 or nearly 10 per cent. over that for 1912. Of this total the value of specie amounted to £873,210, a decrease of £568,882 or nearly 40 per cent., and the value of Government stores amounted to £425,587, an increase of £165,858 or 38 per cent. over the figure for 1913.

The value, therefore, of commercial imports (exclusive of specie and free goods imported across the inland frontiers) amounted to £3,158,171. Compared with 1913 the figure represents a decrease of only £92,502 or less than 3 per cent., and it is a gratifying proof of the economic stability of the Colony that notwithstanding the world-wide collapse of markets in August the decline in its commercial imports was so comparatively trifling. The decrease is due (a) to the closing down of the several German and Austrian firms in the Colony, (b) to the temporary cancellation of orders for cotton and other goods by British merchants on war being declared, but chiefly (c) to the dearth of shipping after August 4th. After that date German steamers, which formerly carried a considerable proportion of the Colony's imports, entirely ceased, of course, to call, while French steamers were few and far between; and from the outbreak of war right up to the end of the year the needs of the Imperial Government absorbed the services of a large number of British vessels that would otherwise have come to West Africa with merchandise.

Of commercial imports the value of those on which specific duty was paid amounted to £785,806, an increase of £1,738 or about one-fifth per cent. as compared with the figures for 1913; the value of commercial imports on which *ad-valorem* duties were paid amounted to £1,647,561, a decrease of £97,298 or less than 6 per cent.; and commercial goods imported free of duty were valued at £586,771, an increase of £6,796 or about 1 per cent.

The value of goods imported by Parcel Post was £138,029, a decrease of £3,742 or about 3 per cent.

(196) The following is a comparative table of the quantities and values of the principal articles of import for the years 1913 and 1914 :—

Articles.	1913		1914		Increase.	Decrease.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
Ale and Porter	148,553	21,991	151,152	22,765	£ 774	—
Apparel, Wearing	—	91,555	—	107,014	15,459	—
Beads	—	47,383	—	39,124	—	8,259
Beef and Pork	4,816	13,893	9,075	29,404	15,511	—
Brass and Copperware	—	19,367	—	12,275	—	7,092
Bread and Biscuits	35,013	46,386	15,057	19,750	—	26,636
Building Materials	—	95,795	—	104,921	9,126	—
Carriages and Carts, including Motor Vehicles	1,169	53,033	929	79,247	26,214	—
Coal	51,666	84,475	68,031	139,228	54,753	—
Cotton Yarn and Twist	419,423	21,324	254,683	15,689	—	5,635
Cotton Goods (Excluding Yarn and Twist)	—	704,206	—	602,594	101,612	—
Flour	53,824	79,575	47,007	68,125	11,450	—
Furniture	—	47,841	—	56,758	8,917	—
Hardware	—	121,064	—	120,985	—	79
Lumber	6,304,397	54,826	5,226,540	64,415	9,589	—
Machinery	—	190,557	—	195,911	5,354	—
Oil (Kerosene)	1,189,659	38,145	1,324,151	43,348	5,203	—
Perfumery	—	43,346	—	44,421	1,075	—
Provisions	—	239,624	—	248,787	9,163	—
Rice	159,636	111,233	146,816	96,578	14,655	—
Silk Goods	—	22,229	—	22,109	120	—
Soap	6,174,651	50,206	6,023,915	53,339	3,133	—
Spirits, Gin and Geneva	558,898	84,367	573,682	86,215	1,848	—
Spirits, Rum	1,153,456	100,093	1,095,076	98,341	1,752	—
Spirits, Other	50,854	29,742	53,853	31,061	1,319	—
Sugar	58,987	56,614	47,787	52,015	4,563	—
Tobacco, Manufactured	170,810	49,134	209,748	64,658	15,524	—
Tobacco, Unmanufactured	1,369,119	45,205	1,540,014	49,330	4,125	—
Wines	70,911	21,485	67,282	21,010	—	475
Woollen Goods (Including Yarn and Twist)	—	33,511	—	30,898	—	2,613

The principal increases are in *Coal*, due to the increase of stocks by the Mining Companies in the Western Province and the Railway Department at Sekondi; in *Carriages and Carts*, due to increased importation of motor vehicles consequent on the improvement of roads in the Central and Eastern Provinces; in *Beef and Pork*, due to the rapid growth in popularity of pigs' feet and pigs' cheeks as articles of food among the natives; in *Wearing Apparel*, due to the growing popularity of ready-made clothing among natives, of both sexes; in *Lumber*, due to increased building activity both by Government and the general public; in *Provisions*, due to the greater consumption by natives of imported luxuries and to some extent to increased prices in the European markets; in *Furniture*, due partly to importations by the Government and partly to imports by the natives whose standard of living is rapidly rising; in *Machinery*, due to Government importations for the Railway, Water Works, Harbour Works, and other public works; in *Kerosene Oil*, due to the larger use of this commodity by the natives; and in *Manufactured Tobacco*, due to the increased use of cigarettes among the natives.

The principal decreases are in *Cottons*, due to the difficulty of obtaining regular shipments from the United Kingdom after the outbreak of war and to the suspension of business by the numerous German and Austrian firms in the Colony; in *Bread and Biscuits*, which appear to be declining in popular favour; in *Rice and Flour*, which were difficult to obtain regularly after the outbreak of war; in *Beads*, due to the cessation of supplies from Austria after August; and in *Brass and Copperware*, due to slack markets in the later months of the year and to the cessation of imports from Germany.

The imports for the five years ending with 1914 were valued as follows:—

					£
1910	..	..	..	..	3,439,831
1911	..	..	..	..	3,784,260
1912	..	..	..	..	4,023,322
1913	..	..	..	..	4,952,494
1914	..	..	..	..	4,456,968

General Features of Import Trade.

The following table shows the value of imports (exclusive of specie) from the principal supplying countries in each year since 1910 and the percentages arrived at by comparing the several figures with the total imports for the year:—

	1910.			
United Kingdom	£2,037,412—	75 %
Germany	324,660—	12 %
France	16,900—	1 %
United States of America	20,141—	1 %
Holland	240,515—	9 %
Southern Nigeria	13,945—	—
Other Foreign Countries	46,834—	2 %

1911.

United Kingdom	.. ..	£2,088,764—72 %
Germany	.. ..	305,303—10 %
France	.. ..	27,471—1 %
United States of America	.. ..	174,173—6 %
Holland	.. ..	182,337—6 %
Southern Nigeria	.. ..	19,355—1 %
Other Foreign Countries	.. ..	87,576—3 %

1912.

United Kingdom	.. ..	£2,317,732—70 %
Germany	.. ..	379,027—11 %
France	.. ..	42,604—1 %
United States of America	.. ..	229,604—7 %
Holland	.. ..	182,965—6 %
Southern Nigeria	.. ..	18,314—1 %
Other Foreign Countries	.. ..	109,574—3 %

1913.

United Kingdom	.. ..	£2,468,604—70 %
Germany	.. ..	386,670—11 %
France	.. ..	44,299—1 %
United States of America	.. ..	251,742—7 %
Holland	.. ..	189,165—5 %
Southern Nigeria	.. ..	23,535—1 %
Other Foreign Countries	.. ..	124,964—4 %

1914.

United Kingdom	.. ..	£2,660,682—74 %
Germany	.. ..	289,288—8 %
France	.. ..	32,979—1 %
United States of America	.. ..	270,176—8 %
Holland	.. ..	170,810—5 %
Southern Nigeria	.. ..	24,312—1 %
Other Foreign Countries	.. ..	121,072—3 %

It will be observed that during the year the United Kingdom secured a net increase in the import trade of the Colony, exclusive of specie, of £192,678, although the total increase in the value of imports from all countries amounted to only £73,354. She therefore not only secured the whole of the 1914 increase but in addition captured from other competing countries trade to the value of £119,324. She is shown in the statistics as having secured large increases in wearing apparel, beef and pork, building materials, carriages and carts, coal, furniture, hardware, lumber, machinery, railway plant, and cigarettes, but it must be noted that a considerable portion of the beef and pork, carriages and carts, and hardware were of American origin, while the

bulk of the lumber was probably of Scandinavian, Canadian, or American origin. The only serious losses the United Kingdom sustained were in rice, which is of East Indian origin, and cottons.

The value of articles imported from Germany during the seven months before war closed all trade with her was £289,288, which when compared with the figure £386,670 for the whole of 1913 would appear to show that peaceful competition was having rapid results.

The gain of the United States of America was principally in unmanufactured tobacco, provisions, machinery, and carriages and carts, whilst the gains and losses of the other countries were of no special significance.

Exports.

The total value of exports by sea during 1914 was £4,942,656, a decrease of £484,450 or about 9 per cent. as compared with 1913. Deducting the value of specie (£472,877) and of Government exports (£26), the value of commercial exports amounted to £4,469,753, a decrease of £553,889 or about 10 per cent.

The following is a comparative table of the quantities and values of the principal articles of commercial export for the years 1913 and 1914:—

Article.	1913.		1914.		In-crease	De-crease.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value		
		£		£	£	£
Cocos .. . tons	50,554	2,489,218	52,888	2,193,749	—	295,469
Kola Nuts .. lbs.	7,024,868	144,705	7,862,414	142,190	—	2,515
Copra .. . tons	629	14,292	656	11,825	—	2,467
Gold and Gold Dust .. . ozs.	422,602	1,626,003	428,880	1,659,435	33,432	—
Auriferous By-Products .. lbs.	148,935	30,107	67,729	28,210	—	1,897
Lumber sup. ft. (Native Timber)	37,391,848	366,094	24,587,217	240,878	—	125,216
Palm Kernels .. tons	9,744	159,128	5,633	88,671	—	70,457
Palm Oil .. galls.	860,165	65,652	495,763	37,646	—	28,006
Rubber .. . lbs.	1,317,369	87,915	654,133	21,631	—	66,284

Increases occurred only in the cases of specie (not appearing in the table) and gold, and are accounted for as follows:—

Specie. (£69,419 or 17 per cent.) due partly to the repatriation of Imperial silver coins, and to the transfers to England of surplus specie held by the Bank during the slack months of April to July.

Gold. (£33,432 or 2 per cent.) due to increased production at the mines, the output of which constitutes a new record for the exports of gold from the Colony.

The principal decreases were as follows:—

Cocoa. (£295,469 or 12 per cent.). Nevertheless the *quantity* exported (52,888 tons) again constituted a record: this was due principally to the extended area put under cultivation in Ashanti

and to the new farms beginning to bear. The decrease in value is due to the low prices that ruled locally during the earlier part of the 1914-1915 cocoa season. At the beginning of the season, owing to the war and the consequent uncertainty of the home markets, the price offered for cocoa was so low that in some districts it was left to rot on the trees, not being considered worth the trouble of picking. Prices rose later on, but even at the end of the year they were only about half the prices obtained in December 1913. This, and the scarcity of ships calling to load produce, caused an unusually large stock to be carried over to 1915, so that the increase in production for the season was really greater than appears from the Customs export statistics. It may be added that the fears entertained during the early part of the season were dissipated. Instead of declining, the price of Gold Coast cocoa in the home markets rose to an unprecedented height, as much as 72s. per cwt. being paid in England for Gold Coast cocoa, as against 56s. at the same time last year. The season therefore must have been a very profitable one for the merchants.

Timber. (Decrease in quantity 12,804,631 square feet or 34 per cent.; in value £125,216 or 34 per cent.). This decrease is due to abnormally heavy shipments in 1913 to meet the short-lived "boom" in the home markets which led to flooding, followed by a sharp drop in prices. Early in 1914 a considerable quantity was shipped, mostly on contract; hence the slight fall in the average price; but since the outbreak of war and the closing down to a large extent of the cabinet-making trade in Europe, local timber has become practically unsaleable, and very little of it has been shipped.

Palm Kernels. (Decrease in quantity 4,111 tons or 42 per cent.; in value £70,457 or 44 per cent.). About a third of this decrease occurred before the outbreak of war, and was due solely to the neglect of the product in favour of the more profitable and more easily handled cocoa. The decrease during the last five months of the year was largely due to the reluctance of merchants to offer good prices, consequent on the uncertainty of the markets in Europe. The average price for the year was about the same as in 1913. The war had a particularly depressing effect on this article of export, since Germany was the largest customer. A greater interest in the manufacture of the raw product, however, appears to have been aroused recently in the United Kingdom, and this opens a better prospect for the future.*

Palm Oil. (Decrease in quantity 364,392 gallons or 42 per cent.; in value £15,005 or 23 per cent.). This product suffered in the same way as palm kernels, except that the average price was higher than in 1913.

Rubber. (Decrease in quantity 663,236 lb. or 50 per cent.; in value £66,282 or 75 per cent.). In the Gold Coast the export has hitherto been practically confined to wild rubber and has been declining since the fall in prices in 1913. The natives will not gather the rubber at the prices now obtainable, and many of them have taken up cocoa growing instead. It will be noted that the average price fell still further in 1914.

* See also remarks under Economic Investigations, on page 24.

Kola. (Increase in quantity 837,546 lb. or 12 per cent.: decrease in value £2,515 or 2 per cent.). In this case the decrease in value is probably fictitious: the whole trade in this product is in the hands of Hausas from whom it is difficult to obtain reliable information. It may be assumed that the 1914 trade differs little in any material respect from that of 1913.

The value of exports for the 5 years ending with 1914 is detailed as follows:—

				£
1910	--	..	..	2,697,706
1911	..	..	..	3,792,454
1912	--	..	..	4,307,802
1913	--	..	..	5,427,106
1914	--	..	--	4,942,656

General Features of Export Trade.

The following table shews the value of goods (exclusive of specie) shipped to each principal consuming country since 1910, and the proportion that each figure bears to the total for the year:—

1910.

United Kingdom	..	..	£1,837,676	or 70 %
Germany	..	..	460,284	„ 18 %
France ..	..	..	196,331	„ 8 %
United States of America	..		40,272	„ 1 %
Southern Nigeria	..	..	78,292	„ 3 %

1911.

United Kingdom	..	..	£2,384,829	or 69 %
Germany	..	..	552,170	„ 18 %
France ..	..	..	397,093	„ 11 %
United States of America	..		42,647	„ 1 %
Southern Nigeria	..	..	93,078	„ 3 %

1912.

United Kingdom	..	..	£2,677,575	or 67 %
Germany	..	..	731,122	„ 18 %
France ..	..	..	384,219	„ 10 %
United States of America	..		72,135	„ 2 %
Southern Nigeria	..	..	133,977	„ 3 %

1913.

United Kingdom	..	..	£3,416,637	or 68 %
Germany	..	..	899,468	„ 17 %
France ..	..	..	455,585	„ 9 %
United States of America	..		101,055	„ 2 %
Southern Nigeria	..	..	145,023	„ 3 %

1914.

United Kingdom	..	..	£3,028,997	or 68 %
Germany	..	..	554,632	„ 12 %
France	..	..	528,780	„ 12 %
United States of America	..	..	93,383	„ 2 %
Southern Nigeria	..	..	141,968	„ 3 %
Holland	..	..	116,948	„ 3 %

The decrease in the value of exports to the United Kingdom was general, except in the case of gold, but was not sufficiently serious to affect her position in the market. A large part of it is due to the drop in the local price of cocoa, but timber, palm products, and rubber also show decreases.

France shows a gain which is due entirely to increased shipments of cocoa.

The whole gain attributed to Holland occurs in cocoa, which for the first time appears in the Colony's statistics as having been exported direct to that country. All shipments, however, occurred before the outbreak of war.

Principal Ports.

The following table gives the principal ports of the Colony, showing the value of imports and exports for 1914 in each case :—

		<i>Value of Imports.</i>		<i>Value of Exports.</i>
		£		£
Sekondi	..	1,765,382	..	2,447,362
Accra	..	1,378,274	..	1,327,375
Addah	..	218,982	..	236,029
Winnebah	..	204,285	..	262,983
Saltpond	..	155,874	..	189,787
Axim	..	70,865	..	169,234
Cape Coast	..	239,210	..	94,368
Appam	..	53,521	..	63,093
Half Assinie	..	40,120	..	45,778

Total Trade.

The total value of the sea-borne trade of the Colony during the year, including expenses on specie, was £9,377,938—a decrease of £992,165 or 9 per cent. as compared with 1913. If we add the value of dutiable imports across the inland frontiers and the Volta, we find that the total value of the trade of the Colony was £9,407,769—a decrease of £987,450 or 9 per cent. Again, by deducting the value of specie imported and exported, including expenses, (£1,351,910) and the value of exports and imports on behalf of Government, (£423,837) we get

the total mercantile trade of the Colony during the year as valued at £7,625,593—a decrease of only £626,613 or 7 per cent. Considering the general paralysis of the world's trade during the last part of the year, the slight decline may well be viewed with complacency.

Up to the end of July the Trade and Customs revenue showed increases beyond the most sanguine expectations—increases which would have marked an era in the commercial history of the Colony had they continued, as there was every prospect of their doing, till the end of the year. It would be wholly misleading, therefore, to make any pessimistic deductions from the slight decreases which the war eventually caused. The Colony's gold and cocoa production again exceeded all past records, and had the local prices of cocoa been at all commensurate with those ruling in Europe at the close of the season, the Gold Coast would have added the profits of another very prosperous year to the already ample accumulation of wealth which she has derived from the harvests of the past.

HINTS TO MANUFACTURERS.

Packing.

The British manufacturer must remember, in sending goods to this Colony, that the conditions attending unshipment and transport to the interior render good and substantial packing imperative. All goods damageable by sea water or damp should be packed in tin lined cases or waterproof canvas; and all heavy goods should be packed in specially substantial crates, barrels, or boxes. Again, it is very necessary that goods intended for transport by porters to the interior should be packed in packages of not more than 60 lb. in weight.

Samples.

It is worthy of mention that all the merchants here are unanimous in contrasting the British manufacturer unfavourably with his German rival in the matter of sending out samples. They say that the German samples were always put up in such a manner that all their merits, with prices and conditions of purchase, were set forth so clearly that they could be grasped without effort. The much greater readiness of the German manufacturer to carry out the wishes of the prospective purchaser in the matter of making slight alterations in his wares to meet local requirements is also a subject of frequent remark and is said to have helped the development of German trade in this Colony very considerably. These, of course, are small matters, but the British manufacturer should not ignore them. They represent very often the difference between success and failure when one has to compete with a capable and painstaking rival.

Cheapness of goods.

Another point that the British manufacturer should bear well in mind is that, while there are many wealthy people in this Colony who can, and do, buy goods of superior quality and finish, the great

bulk of the population are poor and can only afford to purchase low-priced articles. The great bulk of these people, too, have not had sufficient experience of European goods to know that it pays in the long run to purchase a good but expensive article in preference to one that is cheap and inferior. Gloss and glitter also count for much, and attractive make-up greatly enhances the selling qualities of an article. It was by close attention to these details that the German manufacturer obtained such a hold on this market, and the British manufacturer would be well advised to follow his example.

Preventive Service.

The Preventive Service was maintained during the year on the Volta, South-Eastern frontier, North-Eastern frontier, and Western frontier as far as Debisu and was divided into eight sections, each in charge of a Supervisor. In addition, two Inspectors were maintained on the Volta and Western frontier. The native staff consisted of 482 officers and men of various grades. The expenditure on the Service during the year amounted to £23,779, and the revenue amounted to £5,520, or £760 less than in 1913. This is accounted for by a decrease in the number of fines and seizures due to the absence of a part of the Preventive Service Staff with the Togoland Field Force in August and September.

The increased rates of pay which came into force at the beginning of the year have tended generally to improve the efficiency of this branch of the Customs Department.

The influence of the officers and men of the Preventive Service is not, however, confined to the prevention of smuggling; they "show the flag," maintain the peace in certain outlying portions of the Colony, and, noticeably along the Volta River, have improved the sanitation of the riverside villages.

As already mentioned the Inspector, Supervisors, Officers, and men of the Preventive Service on the Volta River and South-Eastern frontiers were attached to the Togoland Expeditionary Force on the outbreak of war, and performed useful work. Four of the men were killed in action near the Tchra River in Togoland.

Mining.

The value of the gold produced in 1914 amounted to £1,744,498, being an increase of £95,729 as compared with the value in 1913. The production was the largest on record.

Of the total amount produced, 402,231 ounces were obtained by mining, and 8,423 ounces by dredging and hydraulic operations.

The increase in value occurred almost entirely in the Colony, which accounted for £89,548 thereof; while the increase in Ashanti was £6,181.

The following statement shows the value of gold produced by the various mining companies during the year, as compared with the previous year :—

Name of Company.	1913	1914
<i>Gold Coast Colony.</i>	£	£
Abbontiakoon Mines, Ltd.	236,570	254,364
Abosso Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	169,835	166,474
Affoh Gold Mining Syndicate Ltd.	—	70
Akoko Gold Mines and Estates, Ltd.	3,801	6,370
Ankobra Exploration and Dredging Co., Ltd.	13,006	1,181
Asiakwa Alluvial Syndicate, Ltd.	461	353
Bibiani, Ltd.	39,236	—
Broomassie Mines, Ltd.	133,483	146,872
Cinnamon Bippo Co., Ltd.	4,491	56,510
Fura Gold Dredging Co., Ltd.	580	—
North-West African Mining Co., Ltd.	600	7,777
Prestea Block A., Ltd.	387,605	426,875
Tarkwa Banket Mining Syndicate, Ltd.	—	—
Tarkwa Banket West, Ltd.	—	—
Tarquah Mining and Exploration Co., Ltd.	170,464	196,382
West African Trust, Ltd. (Sefwhi)	13,549	—
Total	1,173,681	1,263,228
<i>Ashanti.</i>		
Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, Ltd.	449,599	447,092
Ashanti Quartzites Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	—	—
Ashanti Rivers and Concessions, Ltd.	1,389	841
Ofin River Gold Estates, Ltd.	24,101	33,337
Total for Gold Coast and Ashanti.	1,648,770	1,744,498

On the Tarquah conglomerate mines 325,883 tons were crushed, and produced 160,432·36 ounces, this being an extraction of 9·84 *dwt.* per ton; the crushing of 444,584 tons from the quartz mines produced 241,799·09 ounces, representing an extraction of 10·88 *dwt.* per ton.

The various dredging companies treated 1,267,735 cubic yards of alluvium, resulting in a production of 8,423·59 ounces of fine gold, *i.e.* an average of 3·19 grains per cubic yard treated.

The average number of labourers employed daily by the mining and dredging companies throughout the year was 15,741, as against 15,658 in 1913.

Only one prospecting licence was granted in the Colony during the year. Fifteen certificates of validity for mining concessions were issued in the Colony and three in Ashanti.

Agriculture.

The fortunes of the majority of the inhabitants of the Colony proper and of a large and increasing number of those in Ashanti are bound up

with the prosperity of the cocoa industry. In spite of the apprehended ill-effects of the war there was a record trade in cocoa during 1914, 52,888 tons being exported, or 2,335 tons more than in 1913. The growth of the industry is mainly due to increased production in Ashanti. The Chambers of Commerce report that the quality of the cocoa is about the same as in 1913.

The fungoid and insect pests that have attacked the cocoa farms do not appear to be on the increase and are reported to have been no more prevalent in 1914 than in past years. Special attention is being paid to the matter by the Entomologist and other officers of the Agricultural Department. It has now been definitely ascertained that the silk cotton tree is the chief and probably the only indigenous "host" plant of the pest "Sankonuabe." This explains the widespread nature of this serious pest and will, it is hoped, lead to important developments in the means of combating it. The disease which is at present causing most apprehension is the black or brown cocoa pod disease *Phytophthora faber* which is undoubtedly on the increase.

The staff of the Department has as usual been engaged in instructional work both at their headquarters and during their tours through the principal agricultural districts. The scheme introduced in 1913 in the Eastern Province under which natives nominated by the Chiefs are trained as local cocoa instructors, was in 1914 extended to Ashanti. While some progress has been made it will be some time before it can be said whether the scheme has fulfilled its intentions.

More attention is being paid to the copra industry, and the export in 1914 was larger than in the two preceding years. The Director of Agriculture reports that the planting of coconut palms has made remarkable progress in the past few years, and the appearance of the littoral in the Quittah district begins to resemble the great coconut districts on the north-west and eastern shores of Ceylon. Systematic efforts are being made to encourage the cultivation of this product by the distribution of seed nuts and there is good reason to believe that a valuable "stand by" to cocoa can be secured.

There is still some cause for hope that the efforts to improve the breed of cattle by the establishment of a stock-farm in connection with the Agricultural Station at Tamale in the Northern Territories will meet with a measure of success, in spite of the difficulties attending the scheme, chief of which is the prevalence of tsetse fly even in parts of the Northern Territories themselves.

In the Northern Territories also attention has been paid, with the co-operation of the Cotton Growing Association, to the development of a cotton-growing industry. About 17,800 lb. of cotton seed were distributed in 1914, some 800 lb. more than in the previous year. At Tamale a block of about 17 acres has been planted with "Kapok" (*Eriodendron anfractuosum*) and it is possible there may be a future for this product in the Northern Territories.

Experiments have also been made on the Agricultural Stations, which appear to show that *ginger* can be successfully grown in the Colony, while the development of an industry in *piassava* appears

possible. The price of the latter product has risen to a figure that would make it very profitable to extract, and there are considerable quantities of the palms to be found in several parts of the Colony, especially in the Western Province.

Native cultivation of the oil palms is being neglected in favour of cocoa, but European enterprise is introducing central factories for the scientific and economical manipulation of the produce. There is good reason to suppose that this will speedily prove beneficial to the companies and natives alike.

Forestry.

During the first seven months of the year officers of the Forestry Department did useful work in submitting reports, as in previous years, on parts of the Colony and Ashanti which lie off the beaten track. One such report speaks of tobacco being grown at Avereboo in northern Ashanti, and commanding a price "almost equal to the best Sumatra leaf," while another mentions a Para rubber plantation as "producing an average of 400 lbs. of rubber per week under easy tapping conditions" with "many trees just reaching tapping age." The cultivation of tobacco has up to the present been on too small a scale to admit of any useful forecast of its ultimate success or otherwise. The same applies in less degree to exotic rubber; but it is to be hoped that in course of time rubber plantations under efficient management will arrest the astonishing decline in rubber exports of the last five years (from 3,223,266 lb. in 1910 to 654,133 lb. in 1914), due to the inferior methods of preparation of indigenous rubber adopted by natives and the consequent low prices offered.

The planting of teak and sissoo in the Ashanti reserves continued during the year, and the former has done better than was expected last year, both now giving considerable promise. It appears that the sites for these plantations were not very happily chosen, being light forest instead of areas already largely denuded of timber; but in the light of experience future plantations will be made only in the vicinity of towns where timber and fuel are scarce.

Economic Investigations.

The following reports were furnished by the Imperial Institute to the Government of the Gold Coast as the result of investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Research Department, supplemented when necessary by reference to commercial experts.

Copal.—Two samples of copal from the Dunkwa district consisted of large pieces of clean, hard, transparent resin, one specimen being of a pale yellow tint and the other slightly darker. They produced excellent varnishes, and were similar in properties to samples of Gold Coast copal previously examined at the Imperial Institute.

A firm of brokers reported that the copal would probably realise 90s. to 100s. per cwt. in the United Kingdom, if it could be supplied in large clean pieces like the samples. If, however, it is received in the condition of ordinary Gold Coast copal, *i.e.*, consisting of small frag-

ments, dust, and dirt, it would only realise the ordinary price of that material, viz., 47s. to 51s. per cwt. for fairly clean shipments in good condition, and some 35s. per cwt. for inferior grades (March, 1914).

Rubber.—A sample of smoked Para rubber prepared from trees 13 years old at Aburi consisted of thin brown biscuits which were clean and well prepared. The dry rubber contained 94·1 per cent. of caoutchouc, and its physical properties were very satisfactory. It compared favourably in composition and quality with the best plantation Para rubber from the East, and was valued at 2s. 1d. per lb. in London (July, 1914).

A sample of smoked Funtumia rubber, prepared from trees about 9 years old at Aburi, consisted of thin brown biscuits, some of which were rather rough in appearance. The percentage of caoutchouc in the dry material was only 81·7, but the physical properties of the rubber were very good, and it was valued at 1s. 10d. or 1s. 11d. per lb. in London (July, 1914).

Beans.—Two samples of beans, derived from different species of *Canavalia*, were received at the Imperial Institute from the Gold Coast during the year.

The first sample, which was obtained from the Northern Territories, was identified at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, as *Canavalia obtusifolia*. The beans were red externally but cream-coloured within, and had a fairly agreeable taste.

The second sample was derived from plants growing on the sand along the sea coast, and the beans were identified at Kew as *Canavalia ensiformis*. They were a mottled greenish-brown externally but cream-coloured within and had a pleasant taste.

Analysis showed that both these varieties of *Canavalia* beans have a fairly high food value, and that they contain no alkaloids or cyanogenetic glucosides. It would not, however, be possible to utilise either variety for human food in the United Kingdom though the beans might prove to be of value as a feeding-stuff for cattle. Preliminary feeding trials would be necessary before the beans could be recommended for the latter purpose.

Oilseeds.—A sample of "Abeko" kernels from Ashanti was found to be identical with the "Baco" or "Abaku" nuts from the Gold Coast previously examined at the Imperial Institute, which were identified as *Dumoria Heckeli*, A. Chev. The kernels contained 53·6 per cent. of a solid creamy-white fat which would be suitable for soap-making. "Abeko" kernels in good condition should realise about the same price as shea kernels, viz. £11 to £13 10s. per ton in Liverpool (October, 1914).

Specimens of the leaves and seeds of the "Owere" tree were identified at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, as *Monodora Myristica*, Dun. The seeds were found to contain 5·9 per cent of volatile oil, and about 36 per cent. of fixed oil which was slightly viscous and of reddish-brown colour. A request was made for a larger quantity of these seeds to be sent for the purpose of further investigation.

Miscellaneous.—During 1914 a special Technical Information Bureau was formed at the Imperial Institute for the purpose of dealing with the various technical and commercial enquiries which have been received in recent years from manufacturers, merchants, and others in the United Kingdom and the Colonies. On the outbreak of the war the number of such enquiries was largely increased and the work of the Bureau in finding markets for Colonial products assumed very considerable importance. A number of products from British Colonies had been almost exclusively utilised in Germany, and on the suspension of trade with that country it was necessary in the interests of the Colonies concerned to find fresh markets for the materials. A case in point was that of palm kernels, which are an important article of commerce in the Gold Coast. These kernels have been chiefly exported from British West Africa to Germany, there to be worked up into oil and feeding-cake, and large quantities of the oil were subsequently shipped to England. There was, however, no reason why this industry should not be transferred to such great oil-seed crushing centres as Hull and Liverpool, and the question was brought to the notice of British firms by the publication of full information on the subject in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute" (Nos. 3 and 4 of 1914), and by the issue of a circular to oil-seed crushers. As a result the kernels are now being treated on a large scale by oil-seed crushers in the United Kingdom, and a future market for them, independent of Germany, appears to be assured.

Similar action has been taken with respect to copra, a product in which the Gold Coast is also interested, though to a smaller extent.

In addition the Bureau has furnished information to specific enquirers regarding various other Gold Coast products, including cocoa, palm oil, coconuts, rubber, and fibres.

Bulletin of the Imperial Institute.—The following articles relating to Gold Coast products were published in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute" in 1914 (Vol. XII):—

Para Rubber from the Gold Coast.

Funtumia Rubber from the Gold Coast.

Sword Beans (*Canavalia ensiformis*) from the Gold Coast.

Canavalia obtusifolia beans from the Gold Coast.

Copals from British West Africa.

The Trade in Palm Kernels.

Palm Kernel Cake and Meal.

Gold Coast Court.—The Gold Coast is represented in the Public Exhibition Galleries of the Imperial Institute by a Court containing exhibits illustrating the resources, products, and industries of the country.

No new exhibits have been received during the past year, and work

in the Court has been concerned with an improvement in the arrangement of the present exhibits, so far as the showcases will permit.

The statistical statements of trade, and the model representing the gold output of the Colony, have been brought up to date, and detail work of labelling has been carried out.

A number of verbal enquiries concerning the climate, resources, and planting industries of the Colony have been dealt with.

An official lecturer has recently been appointed to deliver short lectures on the countries of the Empire and their resources, the lectures being followed by visits to the courts in the galleries.

Lands.

The bulk of land in the Colony belongs to the tribal "Stools," and, theoretically, there is no land without an owner. The general principle is that all the land within the recognised territory of a "Stool" is the property of that "Stool."

The Crown possesses no waste lands in the Colony, but certain lands have been acquired by the Government from time to time, mostly under the Public Lands Ordinance, 1876, and the Railway Ordinance, 1898, which legalise compulsory acquisition for the services of the Colony on payment of reasonable compensation.

The validity of concessions is enquired into by the Supreme Court under the provisions of the Concessions Ordinance, 1900. The Court enquires whether the grantors are the native owners of the land; whether the area falls within the prescribed limit of 5 square miles for a mining concession and 20 square miles for other concessions; whether the prescribed term of 99 years is exceeded; whether the consideration is adequate; whether the natural produce other than timber is to be collected to the exclusion of the natives; whether natives are to be removed from their habitations within the area of the concession; and whether the statutory rights reserved to the natives are included in the deed. A survey and demarcation of boundaries by the Survey Department is then ordered, and when it is completed a certificate of validity giving the lessee an indefeasible title, subject to the observance of his covenants, is issued by the Court. In the certificate are contained such modifications of the deed as the Court may impose to bring it within statutory requirements and to render it a transaction fair and equitable to both parties. The rent from certified concessions is paid to the native grantors through the Government. Concessions granted solely for purposes of plantations of rubber and other products may be exempted from the operation of the Ordinance, whilst the concessions to acquire mineral oil are held subject to the Government right of pre-emption of the oil under Ordinance No. 15 of 1907.

Shipping.

The following table shows the number and tonnage of steam vessels (distinguishing their nationality) which entered the ports of the Colony during the years 1913 and 1914. Steamers entering the ports of the Colony stay for a day or two only, so that for all practical purposes

the number of vessels entered may also be taken as the number cleared :—

Nationality.	1913.		1914.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ..	403	907,065	419	946,093
German ..	229	499,672	161	362,292
French ..	55	99,084	54	102,357
Belgian ..	—	—	—	—
Norwegian ..	1	864	2	2,223
U. S. A. ..	1	2,288	—	—
Italian ..	2	3,776	—	—
Danish ..	1	2,448	—	—
Portuguese ..	—	—	1	44

The decrease in German steamers is, of course, due to the war and the complete cessation of calls by steamers of that nationality at ports in this Colony.

The following table shows the total shipping “inwards” for the five years 1910–1914. For the reason mentioned the shipping “outwards” is not given :—

Steam Vessels.

Year.	No.		Tons.	
1910	675	.. ..	1,304,703	
1911	665	.. ..	1,348,401	
1912	686	.. ..	1,448,506	
1913	692	.. ..	1,515,197	
1914	637	.. ..	1,413,009	

Sailing Vessels.

Year.	No.		Tons.	
1910	4	.. ..	3,240	
1911	1	.. ..	1,000	
1912	1	.. ..	958	
1913	1	.. ..	851	
1914	1	.. ..	751	

In normal times the mail steamers of the African Steam Ship Company and the British and African Steam Navigation Company, which are both under the management of Messrs. Elder Dempster & Company, leave Liverpool every Wednesday for Sekondi and Accra, the schedule time being fourteen days. Homewards, the mail steamers leave Accra every Thursday and are due to arrive at Plymouth in fourteen days.

The same Companies also provide four services of cargo boats from Liverpool to the Gold Coast, viz., River Service No. 1, River Service No. 2, Gold Coast Service, and Windward Service.

The steamers of River Services Nos. 1 and 2 leave every alternate Saturday and call at Sekondi and Accra, touching also at the port of Axim on the homeward journey.

The steamers of the Gold Coast Service leave on alternate Thursdays, calling at Axim, Cape Coast, Saltpond, Winnebah, Appam, and Addah, and on the homeward journey at Addah, Prampram, Accra, Winnebah, Appam, Saltpond, Cape Coast, Sekondi, Axim.

The boats of the Windward Service leave on the other alternate Thursdays calling at Half Assinie and Elmina, and on the homeward journey at Chama, Sekondi, Adjuah, Dixcove, Axim, Half Assinie.

Steamers leave New York at the end of every month, visiting Axim, Sekondi, Cape Coast, Saltpond, Winnebah, and Accra on the outward journey, and Sekondi and Axim only on the homeward journey.

Steamers of the "Creek Service" leave Rotterdam every month for Axim, Sekondi, Cape Coast, Saltpond, Appam, Winnebah, Accra, and Addah, and call at those ports on the homeward journey.

Steamers leave London every month for Axim, Sekondi, and Accra, and will call both on the outward and homeward journeys at other ports as inducements offer.

The cargo service takes from thirty-two to thirty-four days to Accra.

The normal fares from Liverpool by these lines are £28 12s. (first class), £20 7s. (second class) and £12 2s. (third class) for all ports as far as Winnebah, and £29 14s., £21 9s., and £12 13s. respectively to Accra and eastward ports.

All of the above services have been interrupted on account of the war and the dates given are not rigidly adhered to.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-three Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year under review, of which the following are the most important :—

No. 4 of 1914.—The Regulation of Immigrants Ordinance, 1914, and the Amending Ordinance No. 7, enable the Governor to control immigration by requiring, in such cases as he thinks desirable, immigrants, other than those born in any part of West Africa, to deposit a sum of £25 with the Government. This sum may be used by the Government to meet costs incurred by the Government on the person's behalf in the Colony and incurred in repatriating him. The deposit shall be returned to the person after one year or on his leaving the Colony if he does so within the year without having become destitute.

No. 5 of 1914.—The Trade Marks Ordinance makes the registration of Trade Marks uniform with that of other Colonies on the West Coast of Africa, and similar, so far as circumstances allow, to the practice obtaining in England.

No. 10 of 1914.—Makes provision for Bank Holidays and contains sections similar to those of the Imperial Bank Holidays Act, 1871, as to notice, presentation, acceptance, and payment of bills of exchange and promissory notes.

No. 11 of 1914.—The Trading with Enemy Ordinance, 1914 ; contains provisions similar to those of the Imperial Trading with the Enemy Act, 1914. It imposes penalties on persons trading with the enemy in contravention of any Proclamation by the Governor, or of a Statute, or of the Common Law. It provides for the inspection of books and documents in case an offence is suspected, and provides for the appointment of a comptroller of a business in case an offence is suspected or in case a business has been affected by the state of war and it is in the public interest that the business should be carried on.

No. 16 of 1914.—The Rivers (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914 ; provides more ample control by the Government over the pumping or diversion of water from rivers for commercial purposes.

No. 21 of 1914.—The Defence of the Colony Ordinance ; enables the Governor during war to impose restrictions on aliens, detain suspected persons, and make such regulations as may be necessary to secure the public safety and defence of the Colony.

No. 22 of 1914.—The Enemy Property Control and Disposal Ordinance, 1914 ; makes provision for taking possession of enemy property and the collection of debts by a comptrolling officer ; the comptrolling officer **may** pay certain debts and deposit the surplus in the Treasury to await the Governor's directions.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The schools under the management of Missionary Bodies which are subject to inspection by officers of the Education Department and receive grants-in-aid from public funds numbered, at the close of the year, 148. There are twelve schools under direct Government control. In addition to the assisted schools there are 252 primary schools supported by the various religious bodies. Figures in respect of these are not available. Education is not compulsory.

The following is a comparative table showing the number of schools inspected during the last two years.

Denomination.	1913.	1914.	Increase in 1914.
African Methodist E. Z. Mission	3	3	—
Basel Mission	64	67	3
Bremen Mission	15	15	—
Church of England (S. P. G.) ..	3	3	—
Government Schools	11	12	1
Roman Catholic Mission	26	28	2
Wesleyan Mission	31	31	—
Secondary Schools	1	1	—
Total	154	160	6

All the Mission Schools inspected, with the exception of two, succeeded in obtaining grants-in-aid.

The total number of children enrolled on the registers of schools supported by contributions from the public funds during the year 1914 was 20,246, the average daily attendance being 15,152. Compared with 1913 these returns show increases of 1,637 and 1,258 respectively.

The grants-in-aid earned by schools on the assisted list in 1914 amounted to £9,312, which shows an increase of £948 on the figures for the previous year.

The total income of these schools in 1914 was £18,048, of which sum the grants-in-aid represent rather more than half, the balance comprising school fees, to the amount of £2,280, voluntary subscriptions, and grants from the Mission Societies.

The total estimated expenditure by Government on education in the Colony and its dependencies in 1914 amounted to £29,903, a total exceeding that of the previous year by £1,596.

The number of certificated teachers in the Colony and its dependencies is three hundred and forty-six. Two hundred and twenty-two certificates were granted in 1914.

A very satisfactory report was received on the work of the students at the Government Institution for Teachers at Accra, and the results of the instruction given in metal and wood work at the Government Technical School, Accra, were also good. The work of both these institutions, however, was seriously handicapped by the fact that the buildings which they occupy were, on the outbreak of war, required for military purposes.

Instruction in agriculture or some other form of industrial work is now given in nearly every assisted school.

Forty-eight candidates were successful in obtaining certificates at the courses of instruction in agriculture for students and teachers held at the Aburi, Assuantsi, Tarkwa, and Kumasi agricultural stations.

At the competitive Civil Service examinations for 1914 which control admission to clerkships in the Government Service 143 candidates obtained passes.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals and Asylum.

During the year 1,607 Europeans and 29,392, natives were treated in the hospitals and dispensaries of the Colony, as compared with 1,179 and 26,661, respectively, in the previous year.

The following table shows the total number of patients treated during 1914 :—

	Number of in-patients.	Number of out-patients.
Accra	769	6,892
Sekondi	544	6,190
Cape Coast ..	188	3,454
Axim	122	2,002
Saltpond	—	1,197
Winnebah ..	133	266
Tarkwa	88	1,685
Elmina	6	995
Quittah	80	2,366
Addah	21	1,826
Akuse.. ..	98	1,226
Kibbi	—	320
Dunkwa	—	531
	<hr/> 2,049 <hr/>	<hr/> 28,950 <hr/>

A new hospital for Europeans has been built at Accra.

The present hospital at Accra contains three European and four native wards, with seven and twenty beds respectively.

The hospital at Sekondi contains six European wards, including two for convalescents, with a total of sixteen beds, while for native patients five wards with twenty-seven beds are provided.

At Kumasi there is a European hospital with four wards, and a native hospital with five wards. The number of patients treated at this hospital amounted in 1914 to 58 Europeans, 926 native in-patients, and 6,865 native out-patients.

European nursing sisters are attached to the Accra, Sekondi, and Kumasi hospitals.

There is a lunatic asylum and a laboratory at Accra, and a special sleeping sickness hospital at Anum.

The number of patients admitted into the lunatic asylum during the year amounted to fifty males and three females, as compared with thirty-six and five, respectively, in 1913. The number discharged as cured was thirteen males and one female, as against twelve and four, respectively, in 1913.

The daily average of inmates was 105, the majority of whom are classified as dangerous. Those who are able to work are employed in the asylum garden.

Savings Bank.

There was a large increase in the transactions of this Branch during the year. Deposits amounted to £33,212, an increase of £3,151, and withdrawals to £27,732, an increase of £3,475 over last year. The amount standing to the credit of the 5,593 depositors on 31st December was £51,898, an increase of 1,259 accounts and £6,586 in deposits.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

The total strength of the police force of all ranks on the 31st December, 1914, was 1,041, being five below the authorised strength, made up as follows :—

General Police	..	..	..	..	462
Escort Police ..	..	..	..	..	456
Mines Police ..	..	..	..	..	46
Railway Police	..	..	..	..	77
					<hr/>
					1,041
					<hr/>

This force is distributed in the Colony and Ashanti, (separate provision being made for the policing of the Northern Territories by means of the Northern Territories Constabulary, as to which information is contained in the annual report on the Northern Territories).

The European staff was augmented by two Assistant Commissioners of Police.

The general police was reduced by 19 corporals and 149 3rd Class Constables, but increased by 36 2nd Class Constables ; and the escort

police was increased by fifteen sergeants, thirty corporals, fifty-nine 2nd Class Constables and one hundred and twenty-one 3rd Class Constables. The Railway police was increased by the appointment of four corporals and twelve constables. The strength of the mines police remained unchanged.

The casualties during the year amounted to 381 as against 289 in 1913.

The efficient working of the general police was, as in previous years, seriously handicapped by the want of non-commissioned officers and constables who could read and write. There was no loss of specie or bullion under the charge of the escort police, who earned £579 9s. 11d. for the conveyance of specie, as compared with £748 in 1913.

The police dealt with 10,939 cases of crime, an increase of 1,760 as compared with the previous year. Of this number 203 were committed for trial, the remainder being dealt with summarily. 8,105 convictions were obtained. In 1,843 cases the accused were acquitted, 483 cases were withdrawn, and 305 were not proceeded with.

Prisons.

The four central prisons of the Colony, in which long sentence prisoners are confined, are at Accra, Sekondi, Cape Coast, and Elmina, the daily averages of which are 225, 153, 70, and 34 respectively.

Prisoners whose sentences are for less than six months serve their time in the smaller gaols at Axim, Sekondi, Tarkwa, Saltpond, Winnebah, Akuse, Addah, Quittah, and Dunkwa. At Obuasi (daily average 60) and Kumasi, in Ashanti (daily average 112), prisoners undergo sentences up to three years. Smaller gaols in Ashanti are at Kintampo, Sunyani, Krachi, Goaso, and Wenchi.

The number of prisoners in 1914 amounted to 5,697, an increase of 339 as compared with 1913. The daily average of prisoners in the Colony and Ashanti was 1,033, as compared with 966 in 1913, an increase of 67.

The reports on the various prisons show that the discipline maintained was generally satisfactory. 56 prisoners escaped, as compared with 84 in 1913. Of the 56, 32 were recaptured.

Escapes are comparatively easy to effect, owing to the ease with which a prisoner can get out of sight in thick bush. The health of the prisoners generally was good.

The total earnings in respect of prison industries and labour amounted to £4,639, as compared with £2,345 in 1913, an increase of £1,294, which is due to the increase in the number of the prisoners as compared with 1913, and also due to the introduction of a scheme whereby prison labour engaged by other departments is credited to Prison Earnings.

Criminal Statistics.

The numbers of convictions in the Supreme Courts of the Colony for the last two years have been as follows :—

	1913.	1914.
Offences against the person	39	43
Offences against property (other than praedial larceny)	21	22
Other offences	50	83
	<hr/> 110	<hr/> 148

There were 93 acquittals, in 1914 as compared with 161 in 1913.

The numbers of summary convictions appear as follows :—

	1913.	1914.
Offences against the person	1,122	1,373
Slave dealing	1	5
Offences against property (other than praedial larceny)	1,475	1,769
Other offences	3,976	5,539
	<hr/> 6,574	<hr/> 8,685

There were 2,547 acquittals, as compared with 2,493 in 1913.

These criminal statistics include cases not handled by the police, such as those instituted by the Sanitary Department, and, as regards Supreme Court cases, those instituted on the initiative of District Commissioners in certain outlying districts where illiterate police are directly under their command.

VII.—MEDICAL.

Vital Statistics.

The population of the Gold Coast Colony and its dependencies amounted in 1911, at the last census, to 1,503,386.

The number of Europeans resident in the Colony during the year is given as 2,645, as compared with 2,590, in 1913.

Among the European population an increase per thousand of 3·98 in the death rate and a decrease of 7·71 in the invaliding rate are recorded.

An analysis of the death and invaliding statistics is appended :—

1913.	Number of Residents	Deaths.	Invalided	Death rate per 1,000.	Invalid- ing rate per 1,000.
Officials	740	6	30	8·10	40·54
Merchants	796	7	43	8·79	54·02
Mining companies ..	928	5	37	5·38	39·87
Missions	126	4	2	31·74	15·87
Total or average..	2,590	22	112	8·49	43·24
1914.					
Officials	768	11	24	14·32	31·25
Merchants	733	9	24	12·27	32·74
Mining companies ..	1,820	13	44	12·74	43·13
Missions	124	—	2	—	16·12
Total or average..	2,645	33	94	12·47	35·53
1913.	Number of Residents	Deaths.	Invalided	Death rate per 1,000.	Invalid- ing rate per 1,000.
Colony	2,037	16	95	7·85	46·63
Ashanti	433	5	13	11·54	30·02
Northern Territories	120	1	4	8·33	33·33
Total or average..	2,590	22	112	8·49	43·24
1914.					
Colony	2,083	25	72	12·00	34·56
Ashanti	440	8	19	18·18	43·18
Northern Territories	122	0	3	—	24·59
Total or average..	2,645	33	94	12·47	35·53

As regards the eleven cases of death amongst European officials, one was due to yellow fever, one to blackwater fever, two to subtertian malaria, two to heart failure, one to septicaemia, one to aneurism, one to appendicitis, one to accidental drowning, one to suicide.

There were eleven cases of yellow fever amongst Europeans, six of which proved fatal. Of the twenty-four officials invalided, two were

for malaria, three for blackwater fever, one for neurasthenia, and eighteen for various other diseases.

Of the seventy non-officials invalided, two were for enteric-fever, five for malaria, two for yellow fever, four for blackwater fever, one for dysentery, six for anæmia, four for gastritis, and forty-six for various other diseases.

The number of Europeans coming under treatment was 1,607, as compared with 1,179 in 1913.

No means exist whereby accurate statistics relating to the health of natives can be obtained. The returns show that the number of attendances for hospital and dispensary treatment was 29,392, or 2,731 more than in the previous year. Treatment was given for 2,712 cases of malaria, 2,930 of parasitic diseases, and 787 of dysentery.

In all 51,903 cases of disease were treated during 1914, of which 239 proved fatal, the figures for 1913 being 49,491 and 264 respectively.

The Gold Coast and its dependencies were free from any serious outbreak of epidemic disease during the year.

The number of successful vaccinations performed during the year was 5,147 as compared with 16,436 in 1913. There is no record of the total number performed.

Thirteen cases of sleeping sickness were reported during the year, five of which terminated fatally.

Nineteen cases of yellow fever were reported, nine of which were Europeans. There were nine deaths—four among Europeans and five among natives.

The following is the rainfall registered at the principal stations during the year :—

	Inches.
Accra	24·58
Addah	41·62
Aburi	37·52
Quittah	30·11
Cape Coast	27·08
Sekondi	46·32
Axim	116·98
Tarkwa	41·97
Kumasi	44·52
Kintampo	55·00
Sunyani	43·50
Tamale	34·30
Gambaga	30·65

Sanitation.

The sanitary conditions of the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories show generally an improvement, especially in the more populous centres.

A sum of £29,798 11s. 4d. was spent by the Public Works Department on sanitary improvements during the year. In addition

to other sanitary works 23,367,142 square yards of vegetation were cleared; 1,031 pools or excavations were filled; 7,798 square yards of marsh land were filled and drained, and 8,978 drains and 29,157 pools were treated with crude petroleum.

The sum of £47,834 was expended under the head of sanitation. £1,714 was spent during the year on sleeping sickness preventive measures.

During the year 7,083 persons were prosecuted for offences against the sanitary laws and regulations, and 6,991 convictions were obtained.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The business dealt with by the Department during the year, as compared with the previous year, is as follows :—

	1913.	1914.
Sale of stamps for postal purposes	£12,872	£11,964
Letters and postcards received and despatched	5,080,314	5,723,772
Registered articles	452,207	517,792
Parcels	96,175	95,671
Money Orders (Value)	£50,726	£57,352
Postal Orders (Value)	£190,510	£186,510
Postal Orders (Number)	264,737	255,659
Telegrams, Private	212,287	210,093
Telegrams, Official	71,869	83,844

The Department collected £13,193 in respect of duties levied on parcels, as compared with £13,603 in 1913.

The total number of telegraph offices open to the public in the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories is 50, with a length of wire of 1,613 miles. One office was closed during the year.

There is a wireless telegraph station at Accra.

There are telephone exchanges at Accra, Sekondi, Tarkwa, and Dodowa. The public subscribe for 77 of the 169 telephones in connection at the four exchanges.

IX.—RAILWAYS AND ROADS.

Railways.

The total capital account on the 31st December 1914 stood at £2,850,713.

The gross revenue for the year amounted to £383,008, an increase of £22,416 over the previous year. The Accra Railway, the result of whose working for a complete year by the Government is shown for the first time, contributed £96,465 to the above figure.

The net revenue for the year was £208,915, as compared with £210,637 in 1913, the interest earned on the total combined capital of £2,850,713 being 7·32 per cent. as against 8·05 per cent. in the previous year, 8·98 per cent. in 1911, and 9·01 per cent. in 1910.

The following is a comparative statement of revenue earned by the railway in 1913 and 1914 :—

	1913.	1914.
	£	£
Coaching Traffic	90,445	92,274
Goods Traffic	263,874	281,781
Sundry Earnings	6,273	8,953
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£360,592	£383,008
	<hr/>	<hr/>

On the Sekondi and Accra Railways the numbers of passengers carried in 1913 and 1914 were as follows :—

	1913.	1914.
1st Class	15,297	14,537
2nd Class	28,347	26,030
3rd Class	697,980	734,137
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	741,624	774,704
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The figures for the Accra Railway alone, as regards passenger traffic in 1914, were as follows :—

	No.	Earnings.
		£
1st Class	3,998	1,342
2nd Class	9,825	1,918
3rd Class	233,880	22,360
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	247,703	£25,620
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The total tonnage and earnings for the two railways were as follows :—

		Tons.	Earnings.
Sekondi Railway	.. ..	184,200	£215,111
Accra Railway	.. ..	46,830	66,670
		<hr/> 231,030 <hr/>	<hr/> £281,781 <hr/>

On the Sekondi Railway the increase in tonnage hauled, as compared with the previous year, was 18,919 tons, and the revenue earned was £9,450 more.

There were increases in the carriage of the following articles :—

Imports.—Kerosene Oil (131 tons), and Rice (498 tons).

Exports.—Cocoa (3,695 tons), Hides (105 tons), and Kola (730 tons)

Railway Expenditure.

The following statement shows the expenditure on open lines as compared with the previous year :—

	1913.	1914.
Maintenance of Way and Works	£50,374	£54,018
Locomotive Expenses	63,213	78,627
Traffic „	19,589	22,138
General Charges	16,779	19,309
	<hr/> £149,955 <hr/>	<hr/> £174,092 <hr/>

The percentage of total expenditure to gross earnings on the Sekondi line rose from 45·48 in 1913 to 50·67 in 1914, and on the Accra line from 28·95 to 29·93.

The percentages of various items to total expenditure in each case for 1913 and 1914 work out as follows :—

	1913		1914	
	Sekondi.	Accra.	Sekondi.	Accra.
Maintenance of Way and Works	33·48	34·11	31·19	30·21
Locomotive Expenses	42·93	38·15	48·33	44·34
Traffic „	11·95	18·72	11·76	17·52
General Charges ..	11·61	9·00	11·72	7·93
	<hr/> 99·97 <hr/>	<hr/> 99·98 <hr/>	<hr/> 100·00 <hr/>	<hr/> 100·00 <hr/>

On the Sekondi line £278, and on the Accra line £47, was paid in claims for lost and damaged goods.

Fourteen fatal and four non-fatal personal accidents occurred on the railways during 1914, as compared with six and nine respectively in 1913.

Roads.

In the Colony the main roads are constructed and maintained by a branch of the Public Works Department. In addition to the main roads, 2,098 miles of secondary roads (suitable for hammocks and other head-loads) in the Colony have been placed under the Roads Ordinance (No. 13 of 1894), and are maintained by the native chiefs. The chiefs are paid by the Government at rates varying from 5s. to £1 a mile for the maintenance of these roads.

The lengths of the principal main roads are as follows :—

Accra—Dodowa Road	25 miles.
Accra—Aburi Road	23 „
Nsawam—Kibbi Road	60 „
Nsawam—Asamankese Road	30 „
Winnebah—Asanteman Road	42½ „
Saltpond—Nsuaem Road	62 „
Cape Coast—Prahsu Road	73 „
Ashiaem—Chama Road	8½ „

In Ashanti the roads (outside the towns), with one exception, are maintained by the native chiefs under much the same conditions as for the secondary roads in the Colony. A motor service now runs between the railway terminus at Kumasi and Ejura along the road recently constructed by a special department to facilitate communication with the Northern Territories. This metalled road is about 61 miles in length, and, though covering only about two-fifths of the distance, it traverses the tangle of hills and forest just beyond Kumasi which forms the most difficult portion.

In the Northern Territories there is an excellent system of roads, the generally open, flat country offering no impediment to construction, which is undertaken by the natives under supervision of Political Officers and native chiefs.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

The total expenditure on Public Works amounted to £391,783, as compared with £290,093 in 1913. Annually recurrent works show an increase of £4,262; new works and buildings of £74,941; and roads and bridges of £2,542.

A considerable portion of the expenditure on new works and buildings was incurred in providing increased accommodation for European officials, extending various public offices, and on sanitary improvements.

The amount expended on sanitary works was £40,123, and on roads and bridges £50,217.

The more important works of general interest which were undertaken included a new General Post Office, and a new European Hospital at Accra, an extension of the Post Office at Sekondi, an extension of the Native Hospital at Kumasi, and new Contagious Diseases Hospitals in several Stations.

A commencement was made in July with the preliminary investigations in connection with a sewerage scheme for Accra, but on the outbreak of war work was suspended and postponed indefinitely.

The principal centres of activity were Accra, Sekondi, and Kumasi.

Accra Water Works.

During the year most of the individual works at Weshiang (filters, service reservoir, pump house, and mains) were completed, and though the storage reservoirs still remain to be finished they were available for storing water to the extent of one third their full capacity at the end of the year.

The new offices in Accra were completed and the distribution mains also laid.

Stand pipe services were laid on to nearly all the Government bungalows, offices, and works, and also to many traders' quarters and works.

His Excellency the Governor inaugurated a general water supply to the town on the 10th January, since when a continuous and adequate supply for domestic use and, where required, for building and other purposes has been maintained.

12,464 passengers and 994 tons of merchandise were transported by the Works Railway in addition to departmental stores and material.

Sekondi Water Works.

The works-yard at Inchaban, with sheds, stores, and all the necessary machinery for construction purposes, was completely installed.

Good progress was made with the excavations for the dam and a sound foundation reached in the rock for about two thirds the length of the dam.

Concrete work was commenced and brought up to the top level of the apron at the sluices.

The excavations for the filter beds and clear water tank were nearly completed and some concreting done at both places.

The walls of the pump house and the foundations for machinery therein were also nearly completed.

The retaining wall along the river Anankwan and the bridge over it were completed with the exception of the parapets.

The laying of the 12 inch C. I. pipe main from the works to the service reservoir was well advanced.

Mosquito-proof huts were erected in the camp for the use of the European officers.

Kumasi Water Supply.

Investigations for a supply of water to Kumasi were begun and the Adra fixed on as the source of the supply.

Accra Harbour Works.

Breakwater.—Good progress was made with the extension of the breakwater, and a length of 210 feet was completed during the year.

Over 600 large concrete bags and blocks were deposited in the foundations and over 500 in the superstructure. The extension of the breakwater has proved of great benefit, the shelter in the harbour being much improved thereby. The West African Lighterage Company have increased the number of their lighters at Accra, having found that they can now work more of them than heretofore with safety and advantage.

About 27,000 tons of cargo were exported and nearly 70,000 tons imported in 1914, the record tonnage of imports being over 8,000 tons in one month (June) and of exports over 6,000 tons in December. A record shipment of 10,740 bags of cocoa in one day was made per steamship "Chama" on 16th December. All landing and shipping took place under the lee of the breakwater in the sheltered area, and there is little doubt that without such shelter nothing approaching this amount of cargo could have been handled.

Sand Pumping Operations.—The sand pumps were kept at work during the whole of the year except when stoppages were necessary for repairs to the machinery, etc., and when there was a shortage of coal during part of August and September, the supply having been interfered with by the war.

During the year over 150,000 tons of sand were pumped out of the harbour and the depth near the jetty was well maintained, allowing barges to load and discharge cargo at both sides of the jetty.

Preparations were being made to receive the new 8 inch and 12 inch pumping plant already ordered from England. This new plant will be erected on the new wharf, and when a commencement has been made with the working of it there is practically no doubt that the present depth of water in the harbour will be much increased.

These new pumps will deliver the sand pumped from the harbour into the Lagoon, and in all probability valuable land will thus be reclaimed.

New Wharf.—A new wharf is being erected on the harbour side of the breakwater for increasing the facilities for dealing with cargo. It will be 435 feet long, and will have an area of about two acres.

Warehouse accommodation 360 feet by 60 feet will be provided and cranes will be erected on the wharf.

Jetty.—The jetty, 420 feet long and 52 feet wide, has been used for receiving and shipping cargo throughout the year.

Cranes.—At present there are three 3-ton steam travelling cranes on the jetty and one 15-ton steam travelling crane on the breakwater, so that very heavy lifts can be dealt with. In addition to these cranes it is proposed to provide four more, three 3-ton cranes on the new wharf, and a 10-ton fixed crane on the present jetty.

Railway Approach.—The railway approach to the breakwater, jetty, and new wharf has been much improved during the year, and is now probably all that will be required for some years to come.

Sekondi Harbour Works.

Breakwater.—This structure was completed during 1914, a length of 130 feet having been built in that year. The shelter afforded by the breakwater is ample, and enables the trade of the port to be carried on conveniently and expeditiously.

Slipways.—Two slipways are being built and when completed they will be capable of dealing with craft up to 75 tons in weight.

Railway Quay Extension.—This was practically completed and will give increased facilities for the shipment of mahogany, &c.

Lighter Berth.—A commencement was made with the construction of a berth to accommodate lighters alongside the breakwater. The 15-ton crane will then be available for dealing with heavy lifts.

Rockbreaking.—The rockbreaker was kept at work whenever possible and a large amount of rock was broken up and removed from the bed of the harbour.

Pitched Slopes.—The concrete slopes between the jetty abutments and the breakwater were all completed.

Jetties.—Most of the material for the jetties arrived in the Colony, and the pile-driving machine was erected ready to commence work.

XI.—SURVEYS.

At the outbreak of war, survey work was stopped owing to officers and men being detailed for military duties in either Togoland or the Cameroons.

The authorised cadastral staff consisted of the Director of Surveys, four European surveyors, one European draughtsman, native clerk, five native surveyors and one native draughtsman.

During the year eighteen concessions, some started in 1913, were completed, representing an area of 57,600 acres ; only two remained uncompleted, and these merely require to be tied in.

The town surveys of Axim, Koforidua, Saltpond, and Obuasi were completed and drafted, but the surveys of Nsaba, Swedru, and Nyakrom, commenced in 1913, and Bromase, commenced in 1914, were not completed.

The topographical staff consisted of the Deputy Director of Surveys, two Assistants, and seven men, but two of the men went home on leave for a portion of the year.

By the end of July approximately 3,586 square miles of detail on the field sheets had been completed and approximately 760 square miles of field work had been carried out.

Considerable difficulties with carriers had to be overcome, surveyors on several occasions being deserted by their carriers, and the parties being scattered over large areas, so that rapid communication became impossible.

XII.—TRANSPORT.

The Transport Department dealt with the following number of loads at the various stations—Sekondi 32,269 ; Kumasi, 32,173 and 564 passengers by motor ; Ejura, 6,169 and 111 passengers by motor ; Yeji, 5,949 and 33 boats for passengers ; Yapei, 2,667 and 36 passengers down river.

Both the new motor service between Kumasi and Ejura, a distance of 61 miles, and the boat service from Yeji to Yapei, 88 miles, were in full working order during the year.

The usual establishment of carriers was maintained for the permanent work of the Department during the year, viz—about 500. This number, however, was exceeded for about three months after the outbreak of war, and in addition about 1,600 were taken on and sent to Togoland. After the operations had come to an end 500 of the carriers were transferred to Cameroons. Their nationalities were Mendi, Krepi, Hausa, Moshi, and Wangara.

The European staff of the Department was expanded to 27 in all for the period of military operations.

The carriers' savings bank accounts numbered 711 at the end of 1914, representing between five thousand and six thousand pounds.

XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Suitability of Climate for Europeans and Openings for White Labour.

The Gold Coast is peculiarly free from many of the discomforts associated with tropical countries: hot nights and intense heat by day are the exception rather than the rule, while insects are comparatively unobtrusive. There is, however, an insidious quality in the climate, lowering the vitality of Europeans and rendering them an easier prey to mosquito-borne diseases than in many tropical countries where the discomforts of the climate are more obvious. The efforts of the sanitary and medical authorities in promoting hygiene and treatment of disease continue to exercise a beneficial effect on the general health of Europeans.

Native aspirants to various kinds of employment, skilled and unskilled, being plentiful, it is not the policy of Government to encourage European immigration; and, living being expensive, it is highly inadvisable for Europeans in search of employment to come to the Colony without previous engagement by Government or representatives of mercantile firms in Europe.

XIV.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The progress forecasted in the optimistic report of last year was rudely arrested by the War, but until that catastrophe the highest hopes were fulfilled and the returns for the month of July were indicative of the greatest prosperity that the Colony and its dependencies have ever known. The check which has been received is due to no internal cause. The capture and occupation of Togoland were achieved with such rapidity that only for a brief while can the operations have affected industrial and commercial activities, and even such disruption as took place was only of a local character. The output of gold in the year under review, constituting as it does a record for the Colony, rather points to an access of mining enterprise; nor have commercial energies been reduced save in those parts of the Colony where enemy firms were most active, and it is to the want of shipping facilities consequent upon the war that we must turn to account for the decline

of trade. Even with the decreased number of ships the quantity of cocoa exported exceeds that of any previous year, while the spending power of the people, after a short period of depression accentuated by poor prices paid for cocoa at the beginning of the season, has been scarcely affected, the general prosperity being reflected in the continued demand for goods of European make. That the standard of living is rising amongst natives is shown by the better type of house now erected and the demand for increased facilities for communication. Sanitation and education are an earnest that the desire for improvement is not inspired alone by a love of luxury. The loyalty of the people to the Administration was clearly demonstrated at the outbreak of war, and though all local fears had vanished within three weeks thereof the continued contributions to the War Fund leave it plain that that loyalty has not abated.

Separate Reports are presented with regard to Ashanti and the Northern Territories.

13th August, 1915.

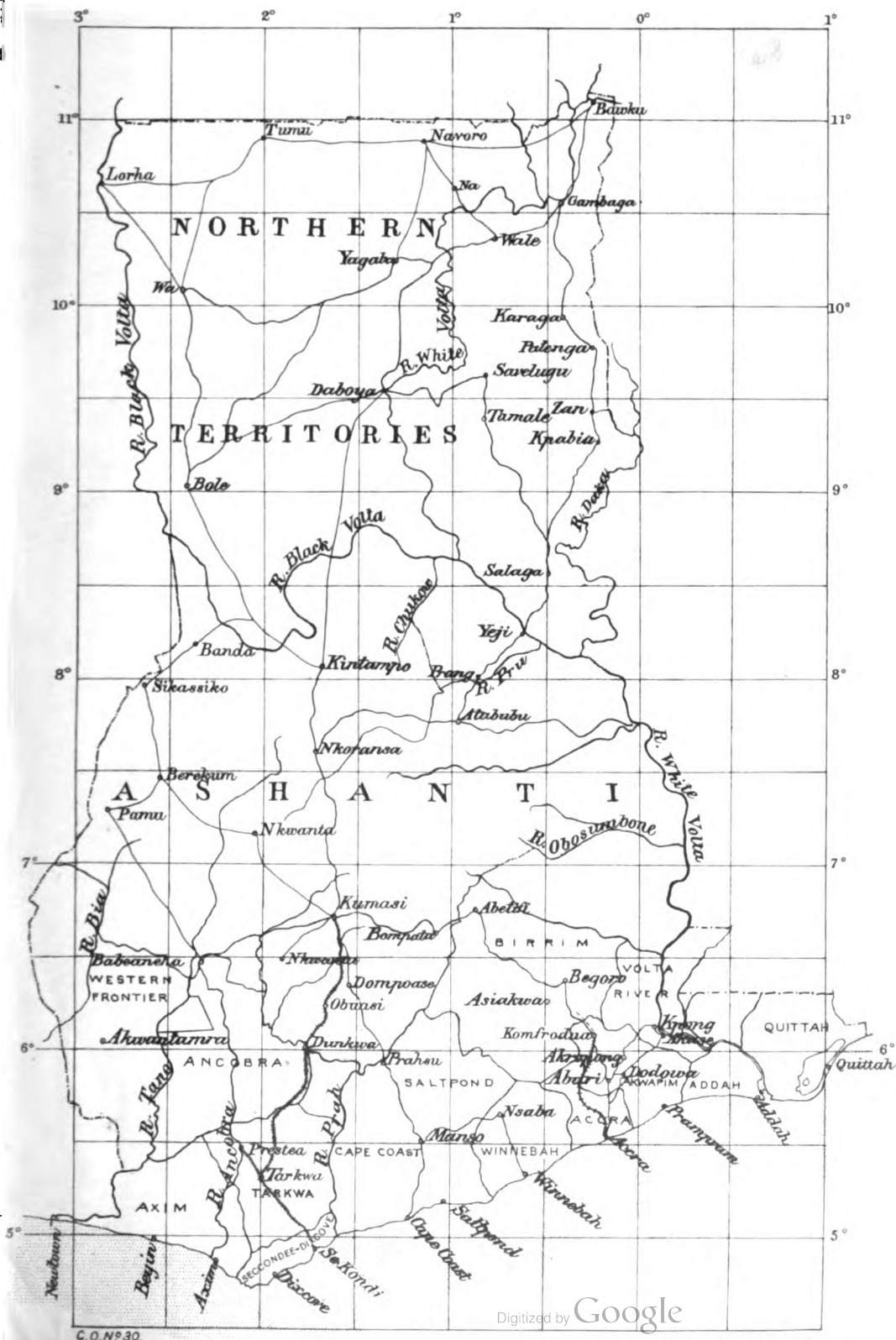
C. E. COOKSON, CAPT.,
Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX.

Statement showing the importation of spirits into the Gold Coast during the six years ended 31st December, 1914 :—

Year.	Total Quantity in Gallons Imported.	Total Quantity in Gallons entered for Home Consumption.	Gallons at 100° converted from liquid gallons varying in strength.	Declared Value.	Revenue derived from Duties.	Duty Chargeable.
1909	1,177,711	1,144,644	558,519	£132,619	£298,883	West of Volta, 5s. 6d. per gal. imp. East of Volta, 3s. 7½d. per gal. imp.
1910	1,581,624	1,459,350	751,969	176,359	384,538	West of Volta, 5s. 6d. per gal. imp. East of Volta, 3s. 7½d. per gal. imp.
1911	1,559,782	1,611,725	738,714	185,129	421,970	West of Volta, 5s. 6d. per gal. imp. East of Volta, 3s. 7½d. per gal. imp.
1912	1,835,204	1,655,842	904,526	220,267	470,143	West of Volta, 5s. 6d. per gal. imp. East of Volta, 3s. 7½d. per gal. imp.
1913	1,762,910	1,769,496	835,780	214,202	502,429	West of Volta, Jan. to Aug. 29th, 5s. 6d., 30th Aug. to Dec. 31st, 6s. 3d. per gal. imp. East of Volta, 3s. 7½d. per gal. imp.
1914	1,719,646	1,797,709	848,976	214,583	494,072	West of Volta, 6s. 3d. per gal. imp. East of Volta, 3s. 7½d. per gal. imp.

SKETCH MAP OF THE GOLD COAST.



COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

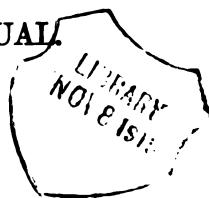
The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.							
No.	Colony, &c.						Year.
821	Northern Nigeria..	..	..	..	..	..	1913
822	Grenada ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
823	Zanzibar ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
824	Barbados ..	..	..	..	..	..	1913-1914
825	Southern Nigeria..	..	..	..	..	..	1913
826	Mauritius ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
827	British Honduras	..	..	..	..	..	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	..	..	..	..	..	1913-1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	..	..	..	..	..	"
830	Swaziland ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
831	Uganda ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
832	Nyasaland ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
833	British Guiana ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	..	..	..	..	..	1914
835	St. Vincent ..	..	..	..	..	..	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
837	Somaliland ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
838	Straits Settlements	..	..	..	..	..	1913
839	Cayman Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	..	..	..	..	..	"
841	Leeward Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	..	..	..	..	..	"
843	Zanzibar ..	..	..	..	..	..	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	..	..	..	..	..	"
845	Weihaiwei..	..	..	..	..	..	"
846	Seychelles..	..	..	..	..	..	"
847	St. Helena ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
848	Fiji..	..	..	..	..	..	"
849	Bahamas ..	..	..	..	..	..	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar ..	..	..	..	..	..	1914
851	Sierra Leone ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
852	Grenada ..	..	..	..	..	..	1914-1915
853	Bermuda ..	..	..	..	..	..	1914
854	Malta ..	..	..	..	..	..	1914-1915
855	Ceylon ..	..	..	..	..	..	1914
856	Hong Kong ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	..	..	..	..	..	1914-1915
858	Basutoland ..	..	..	..	..	..	"

MISCELLANEOUS.							
No.	Colony, &c.						Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland ..	..	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	..	..	..	..	..	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies ..	..	..	..	..	..	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon ..	..	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	..	..	..	..	..	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent ..	..	..	..	..	..	Roads and Land Settlement.

L O N D O N :
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

1915.



No. 860.

J A M A I C A .

REPORT FOR 1914-15.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 820).

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.



L O N D O N :
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LIMITED, THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

D. O. U. of G.

[Cd. 7622-51]. Price 3d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I.—FINANCIAL	3
II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	8
III.—LEGISLATION	15
IV.—PUBLIC EDUCATION	17
V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	19
VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS	21
VII.—VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH	22
VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES	29
IX.—GOVERNMENT RAILWAY	31
X.—PUBLIC WORKS.. .. .	31
XI.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	32
MAP.	

No. 860.

JAMAICA.

(For Report for 1913-14, see No. 820.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

King's House, Jamaica,

26th August, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to report on the Blue Book Returns of this Government for the financial year ended 31st March, 1915.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue and expenditure of the year, under the heads of Estimates, compared with those of the preceding year, were as follows:

Revenue.

Heads.	Receipts, 1913-14.			Receipts, 1914-15.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	426,686	18	11	396,045	1	11
Port, Harbour, and Lighthouse Dues	8,195	18	2	6,894	19	4
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified	208,655	14	9	201,832	7	7
Fees of Office, Stamp Duties, Reimbursements - in - aid, and Irrigation Receipts	128,217	12	1	111,331	9	5
Post Office and Telegraphs	51,791	18	8	49,744	17	1
Railway	176,677	7	0	179,387	16	3
Rents	3,030	11	0	3,233	10	4
Interest	8,355	0	5	13,482	12	10
Miscellaneous Receipts	15,868	17	4	16,369	5	5
Land Sales	1,158	15	11	1,352	9	7
Loan raised to reimburse cost of Rio Minho Branch Railway	20,000	0	0			
Face value of Nickel Coin imported	—			500	0	0
	£1,048,638	14	1	£980,174	9	9

Expenditure.

Heads.	Payments, 1913-14.			Payments, 1914-15.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Charges of Debt	189,591	12	1	109,540	4	8
Pensions	33,661	6	8	35,241	13	9
Pensions, Widows and Orphans	8,390	18	4	9,480	7	8
Governor and Staff	6,083	2	0	6,295	6	4
Privy Council	82	6	3	56	2	10
Legislative Council	929	19	11	906	11	9
Colonial Secretariat	5,146	9	1	5,153	5	10
Public Works Department ..	19,121	16	10	19,331	4	9
Parochial Roads and Works ..	1,726	11	5	1,712	10	0
Lands Department	3,481	3	3	4,133	2	4
Railway	112,528	1	10	107,259	5	0
Audit Office	4,034	0	9	4,206	5	3
Treasury Department	3,832	16	0	3,841	7	11
Government Savings Bank ..	2,137	15	11	2,056	8	4
Immigration	1,061	2	8	788	18	4
Clerks Parochial Boards ..	450	0	0	450	0	0
Stamp Office, Excise, Internal Revenue, and Customs ..	54,867	19	8	58,457	8	1
Postal and Telegraph Service ..	47,097	12	1	49,612	16	7
Construction of Railway Pier No. 3	12,610	5	10	6,290	3	5
Judicial	38,802	0	7	38,550	11	5
Ecclesiastical	868	14	8	830	0	0
Medical	75,975	18	5	77,912	9	3
Constabulary and Prisons ..	95,784	7	8	99,702	6	5
Industrial Schools, Reformatories	6,674	15	5	6,615	13	6
Education	84,013	11	1	85,120	12	2
Harbours and Pilotage	3,476	12	3	3,157	18	2
Military : Imperial Troops, Colonial Defence	7,475	7	9	17,693	19	0
Direct Cable Subsidy	750	0	0	1,000	0	0
Railway to Chapeltown (Rio Minho Branch)	13,122	18	1	9	7	
Record and Registrar-General's Office, Registrar of Titles ..	5,524	12	6	5,460	19	4
Government Printing Office ..	9,425	15	1	9,339	15	1
Institute of Jamaica	1,551	9	2	1,500	0	0
Board of Supervision	727	19	8	399	16	9
Agricultural Services	20,959	13	3	15,824	17	3
Miscellaneous	48,785	3	0	38,274	19	3
Public Works and Buildings, Lighthouses	144,344	10	10	121,502	10	3
Purchase of Sugar as Colony's War Contribution	—			25,879	2	0
Relief Works, Manchester	—			146	13	0
Hurricane Assistance	338	8	10	—		
Manufacture of Nickel Coin ..	—			243	5	6
	£1,065,436	18	10	£1,054,969	0	9

The total revenue and expenditure for the last five years have been as shown below :—

				Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
1910-11	..	..	..	990,399	987,304
1911-12	..	..	..	1,161,014	1,155,208
1912-13	..	..	..	1,206,161	1,304,930
1913-14	..	..	..	1,048,639	1,065,437
1914-15	..	..	..	980,174	1,054,969

The revenue for 1914-1915 was less than the original estimate by £84,117 10s. 3d. Nearly every Head of Receipts showed material decrease as compared with the estimate, thus :—Customs, £43,955 ; Port, Harbour, and Light-house Dues, £1,605 ; Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue, £8,092 ; Fees of Office, Stamp Duties, &c., £9,487 ; Post Office and Telegraphs, £2,255 ; Railway, £20,612 ; and Interest, £2,906. The only increase of consequence was £3,608 under Miscellaneous. These shrinkages in revenue were chiefly due to the great war, and on the 17th September, 1914, a law was passed reimposing the additional 6½ per cent. import duty on the value of all goods which fall without the specific and free schedules of the tariff law. This additional levy to the end of the financial year realized £25,206, but in spite of this the total yield of the Import Duties for the year was, as is stated above, £43,955 less than the original estimate based on, the lower duty. If, therefore, the extra duty had not been put on, Customs Dues would have been £69,161 less than the estimate. If the yield of the reinforced Import Duties (£396,045) be compared with the amount received in the preceding year (£425,686), the falling off is £30,641. This would have been increased to £55,847 if the extra 6½ per cent. had not been added to the *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. in force at the beginning of the year.

The expenditure was less than the Budget estimate by £52,305 12s. 2d., but as supplementary appropriations amounting to £60,000 were voted, there was a saving of £112,305 12s. 2d. on the total sums voted for the services of the year. The supplementary appropriations voted at the War Sessions in August and September were respectively £10,000 for defence and £50,000 to be expended in the purchase of sugar as a gift to the Home Government.

There were savings on almost every head of expenditure as the result of the action taken at the beginning of the war, which is herein-after referred to. If the payments are considered against the votes, the following are the chief points of difference, £1,000 and over only being taken, viz :—Decreases under Charges of Debt of £3,632 : under Public Works Department of £1,821 ; under Lands Department of £1,008 ; under Post Office and Telegraphs of £4,913 ; under Medical of £3,113 ; under Constabulary and Prisons of £2,280 ; under Harbours and Pilotage of £1,107 ; under Agricultural Services, £1,097 ; under Public Works and Buildings, £57,316 ; under Railway, £13,771 (includes £4,359 under Pier No. 3) ; and under Chapelton Railway Estimates of the whole Vote of £1,400, less a few shillings. Apart from sugar and defence the only similar increases were £1,457 under

Excise, Internal Revenue, and Customs, and £7,475 under Miscellaneous. This latter excess is more than accounted for by a deferred expenditure from the previous year for new pumps for the Kingston Pumping Station (£4,591), and the costs of appeal in certain tramway cases (£1,704), and Interest on Temporary Advances (£2,471).

If the payments are considered against those of the preceding year the following are the chief points of difference:—Increases of £1,580 under Pensions of Public Officers; of £1,089 under Pensions of Widows and Orphans of Public Officers; of £3,589 under the Revenue Department; of £2,515 under Postal and Telegraphs; of £1,936 under Medical; of £3,917 under Constabulary and Prisons; of £1,107 under Education; of £10,218 under Military (Defence); and of £25,879 in respect of the gift of sugar to the Home Government.

The chief decreases were £5,134 under Agricultural Services; £10,510 under Miscellaneous; £11,588 under Railway (£6,290 of which was in respect of Pier No. 3); £13,122 under Clarendon Railway extension; and £23,180 under Public Works and Buildings.

The receipts during the year being £980,174 and the expenditure £1,054,969; there was a deficit on the year's transactions of £74,795. As the surplus balance in the Surplus and Deficit Account of the Government on the 1st April, 1914, was £59,417, the year ended with a deficit of £15,378 to be met from the Insurance Fund. It had been expected, when the revised estimates of 1914–1915 were being made up prior to the passing of the estimates of the year 1915–1916, that this deficit would be £40,872, a difference of £25,494; but it was not found possible to spend within the year as much as was expected in the matter of the gift sugar. This accounted for about £12,400 of the apparent saving and, of course, meant that it was simply expenditure deferred until the year 1915–1916; about £600 represented other unavoidable deferred expenditure, so the remainder, say £12,500, represented further savings than had been expected at the date the revised estimates were made up.

Immediately on the outbreak of the great war, in order to make provision for the decrease in revenue, which I felt sure would ensue, I ordered the suspension of all those new works on roads, buildings, etc., which were not of absolute necessity and called upon every department of Government to suspend for the time, all but the unavoidably necessary expenditure. By these means the pressure of the situation on the island's finances was reduced as much as possible and there resulted savings on the votes (excluding from consideration the matter of the vote and expenditure on account of the gift of sugar) amounting to a total of £88,165.*

	£	£
*Total votes	1,167,275	
Less sugar vote	50,000	
		1,117,275
Total expenditure	1,054,969	
Less sugar expenditure	25,879	
		1,029,090
		88,165

These savings (£88,165—excluding sugar) added to the yield of the additional taxation put on as a result of the war (£25,206) came to £113,371, by which amount the Colony would have been in a worse position financially at the end of the year if the measures above briefly alluded to had not been taken in the early days of war.

The public debt of the Island (most of which is represented by productive investments) amounted to £3,854,305 on the 31st March, 1915. The accumulated sinking funds on the same date amounted to £968,739, leaving a net liability of £2,885,566. Included in the debt were guaranteed public loans for local purposes, secured on municipal rates and undertakings, amounting to £467,801, the sinking funds in respect of which amounted to £79,874.

The totals of the revenue and expenditure of the City Council of Kingston, of the Kingston General Commissioners, and of all the Parochial Boards taken together, for the last five years, are shown in the following comparative statements :—

Kingston City Council.

				Receipts. £	Expenditure. £
1910-11	..	..	..	35,755	35,385
1911-12	..	..	..	46,565	45,846
1912-13	..	..	..	41,515	43,846
1913-14	..	..	..	39,100	37,610
1914-15	..	..	..	38,420	37,777

<i>Kingston General Commissioners.</i>				<i>Other Parochial Boards (14 Parishes.)</i>	
		Receipts. £	Expenditure. £	Receipts. £	Expenditure. £
1910-11	..	60,082	52,373	135,118	139,032
1911-12	..	69,740	72,875	123,179	124,059
1912-13	..	44,656	54,842	148,029	146,491
1913-14	..	48,479	44,503	154,813	148,199
1914-15	..	49,919	52,074	136,107	129,187

The debts of the Parochial Boards to the Treasury for advances made for water-works and markets amounted at the close of the year to £18,623.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(a) *Imports and Exports.*

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years are as follows :—

			Imports. £	Exports. £
1910	..	..	2,614,943	2,568,222
1911	..	..	2,865,553	2,948,067
1912	..	..	3,050,478	2,709,283
1913	..	..	2,837,446	2,430,207
1914	..	..	2,565,820	2,904,533

The imports decreased by £271,626 and the exports increased by £474,326. With the passing of a cycle of years, characterised by deficient rainfall, the year 1914 was agriculturally prolific, and notwithstanding the handicap of war conditions and the competition in the island's principal fruit market of a phenomenally abundant crop of home-grown fruits, the domestic exports of the year actually constituted a record, having been in excess of those of 1911 by upwards of £22,000 when from the figures are eliminated the value of re-exports. Nor is there reason to doubt that but for the interposition of unlooked for factors the volume of imports also would have approached high water mark.

If a perspective of forty years be taken at intervals of ten years the growth of the imports and exports is thus indicated :—

			Imports. £	Exports. £
1874	..	..	1,759,942	1,442,080
1884	..	..	1,487,832	1,483,989
1894	..	..	2,191,745	2,075,689
1904	..	..	1,682,355	1,436,725
1914	..	..	2,565,820	2,904,533

The imports and exports under the approved statistical grouping for 1914 and 1913 compare thus :—

	1914.		1913.	
	Imports. £	Exports. £	Imports. £	Exports. £
1.—Animals, Food, Drink, and Tobacco,	1,020,654	2,422,748	1,224,389	1,846,703
2.—Raw Material or Articles mainly un- manufactured ..	281,465	192,188	121,825	184,565
3.—Manufactured wholly or mainly	1,250,280	214,606	1,488,666	216,579
4.—Miscellaneous un- classified	940	1,139	2,163	1,541
5.—Bullion and Specie ..	12,481	73,852	403	180,816
	£2,565,820	2,904,533	2,837,446	2,430,207

Tables giving the trend of trade are given by the Collector General for forty years as below—countries from which imports are drawn, with values and rates in each case :—

	1874.	1884.	1894.	1904.	1914.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	966,469	789,506	1,106,284	788,452	986,218
	54.9%	53.1%	50.5%	46.8%	38.5%
United States ..	540,124	469,692	803,340	719,262	1,221,150
	30.8%	31.6%	36.6%	42.7%	47.6%
Canada ..	187,366	177,260	186,320	115,891	208,884
	10.6%	11.8%	8.5%	6.8%	8.1%
Other Countries ..	65,983	51,374	95,801	58,750	149,567
	3.7%	3.5%	4.4%	3.7%	5.8%

Countries to which exports are distributed, with the like information in each case :—

	1874.	1884.	1894.	1904.	1914.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	1,141,459	643,628	554,082	271,209	529,803
	79.2%	43.4%	26.7%	18.9%	18.2%
United States ..	21,071	461,877	1,189,618	768,121	1,769,464
	1.5%	31.1%	57.3%	53.5%	60.9%
Canada ..	8,034	198,660	35,681	126,693	208,516
	.6%	13.4%	1.7%	8.8%	7.2%
Other Countries ..	271,516	179,824	296,308	270,702	396,750
	18.7%	12.1%	14.3%	18.8%	13.7%

The following table gives a birdseye view of the relative importance to the island during each of the last three years of its staples and of minor products :—

	1912.	1913.	1914.
Sugar	5.1%	2.3%	7.0%
Rum	2.6%	4.6%	3.6%
Coffee	10.7%	7.1%	5.9%
Cocoa	5.4%	5.2%	5.5%
Dyewoods ..	3.4%	5.2%	4.5%
Fruit	54.7%	48.6%	54.5%
Pimento ..	3.0%	4.0%	1.6%
Minor Products ..	15.1%	23.0%	17.4%

The acreage returned in 1914-15 grouped under the four main divisions of the Agricultural returns and compared with the average acreage under these headings in the four preceding years produces the following abstract :—

	1914-15.	Average 1910-14.
	Acres.	Acres.
Tilled Lands	273,111	271,316
Guinea Grass	172,864	148,157
Commons	566,153	513,342
Wood and ruinate	1,114,283	1,216,256

There is an increase in each description of land subjected to some sort of care and culture, with consequent falling off in the area returned as being in wood and ruinate.

Lands subject to tillage are further classified under the particular crops to which they are dedicated, and the following is an abstract of such classification showing the figures for 1914-15 against a four-years' average :—

	1914-15.	Average 1910-14.
	Acres.	Acres.
Canes	31,727	32,334
Coffee	18,175	22,869
Coconuts	29,731	17,531
Bananas	85,854	82,064
Cocoa	11,088	11,722
Ground Provisions	63,640	72,061
Mixed Cultivation	28,603	28,626
Minor Items	4,293	4,106

In connection with this abstract the Collector-General remarks :—

“Last year it was recorded that the cultivation of canes, coffee, and cocoa were on the down grade, and the figures here given show that the downward tendency has not yet been arrested, canes showing a further decrease of 607 acres, coffee 4,694 acres, and cocoa 634 acres. The very strong present position of sugar in the world markets and the favourable position of cocoa, will doubtless result in much more attention being given to these products in the immediate future, but the indications are that coffee will continue to give way to fruit-growing. The great increase in the coconut area—12,000 acres—is no doubt due to the return to bearing of groves that were destroyed in the hurricane of 1903, and had to be replanted. Bananas show an increase of 3,790 acres over the average, and if only a proportion of the rumours reaching us as to the condition of this industry in Central American Republics be well grounded, confidence in the future of the banana in this country will be justified. Ground provisions show a falling off of 8,421 acres, probably due to lands being less exclusively devoted to root crops than was formerly the case, and minor items exhibit an improved acreage of 187 acres.”

The following abstract of the number of separate properties laid under contribution to general and parochial revenues during the year 1914-1915 and the different descriptions, set out and compared with the figures of the year preceding, show the following :—

	1914-15. Number.	1913-14 Number.
Properties valued at £20	63,921	62,889
" " at £30	6,653	6,653
" " at £40	53,098	53,428
" " over £40	31,275	30,715
Occupiers relieved	1,307	1,005
Properties in arrear	13,463	12,757

The year just past is the eleventh since the direct taxation for general and parochial purposes was transferred to its present basis of real property, and the following comparative table given by the Collector-General of the progress made in that period will possess interest :—

	Approximate number of pro- perties on roll.		Number in arrears.		Percentage uncollected.	
	1903-04.	1914-15.	1903-04.	1914-15.	1903-04.	1914-15.
Kingston ..	7,850	8,128	231	60	2·9	·7
St. Andrew ..	7,525	10,806	1,468	512	19·5	4·7
St. Thomas ..	8,417	10,008	2,961	394	35·2	3·9
Portland ..	8,161	10,512	1,766	167	21·6	1·5
St. Mary ..	10,159	12,788	2,920	361	28·7	2·
St. Ann. . .	12,249	14,937	1,489	1,254	12·1	8·3
Trelawny ..	6,106	8,356	921	353	15·	4·2
St. James ..	6,091	7,298	839	352	13·8	4·8
Hanover ..	6,523	7,590	143	471	2·2	6·2
Westmoreland ..	10,388	11,538	442	1,361	4·2	11·7
St. Elizabeth ..	12,667	15,933	642	1,234	5·	7·7
Manchester ..	12,110	14,288	234	1,854	2·	12·9
Clarendon ..	14,657	17,620	1,702	2,798	11·6	15·8
St. Catherine ..	14,942	19,408	2,806	2,291	18·7	11·7
Port Royal ..	199	205	5	1	2·5	·4
	138,044	169,415	18,569	13,463		

In the parishes of Westmoreland, Manchester, Clarendon, and St. Catherine the percentage of arrearage may perhaps be higher than it should be, but there were local causes accounting for this in the shape of the aftermath of hurricane in one case and drought in the others, but with minimum imposts of from 3s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. per holding of real property it is difficult to admit that the causes enumerated are sufficient to account for arrears so high as from 11·7 to 15·8 per cent. On this point the Collector-General reports as follows :—"The general sentiment of the bulk of the peasantry is opposed to direct taxation in any

form, a sentiment which it is feared is fostered by those higher up the social scale. Prior to 1903 the direct taxes were levied on rental values of houses, on cultivation, and on holdings according to area, but the small holder became so overweighted and arrears accumulated to such an extent, that legislative intervention was sought and arrears were forgiven and a new start made under more favourable auspices, but I am afraid that whatever the incidence and however small the rating, the repugnance to direct taxation will always constitute a handicap to efficient collection."

The Surveyor-General makes the following observations with regard to the sale of Crown Lands, &c., during the year :—

Sale of Land.

Three hundred and fourteen instalment purchasers, who bought 2,881 acres under the Rules for the sale of Crown Lands to small settlers have completed payment of their instalments of purchase money and been issued titles for their lands. There were also 53 other purchasers who paid cash down for 193 acres. To date, of the total of about 33,029 acres that have been sold partly on credit since 1897, about 25,807 acres have been paid for in full, about 3,336 acres taken back for failure to pay, and about 3,489 acres still remain in possession of the purchasers to be paid for. On 3rd December, 1914, the Rules for the sale of Crown Lands to settlers, which had been partly suspended during the past few years, owing to the large amount of land that was out on credit, were issued afresh with some slight amendments, and since that date 70 applications to purchase 538 acres have been received, of which 35 applicants have been allotted 216 acres in satisfaction of their applications. More applications are still coming in and debt collecting and retaking of lands for failure to pay will, as in the past, continue to be undertaken. Twenty-three purchasers were issued refunds of £42 10s. 6d. for establishing one-fifth of their purchased area in bearing cultivation of permanent crops or making building improvements on town lots; £34,440 has been received for sale of lands since 1897. The purchase money received during the year is £1,527 4s. 10d. Roads were made to Crown lands at Grant Bailey's and Clover Hill, St. Ann, and at Mount Donald, St. Thomas, at a cost of £218 4s. 2d.

Leases and Tenancies.

51 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres and 12 town lots have been leased to 14 persons for £203 18s. 0d. per annum, and 865 praedial tenancies have been made at rentals ranging from 12s. to 20s. per acre per annum. The total amount of rent received for the year is £3,182 15s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Forfeiture of Lands.

1,760 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres have been finally forfeited. No fresh notifications of forfeitable land have been issued owing to the considerable area on which forfeiture proceedings are pending, covering no less than 9,431 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres, on which the half way stage of interlocutory judgment has been reached on only 2,492 acres.

Generally.

No fresh squatters or escheat cases have been concluded ; two are still pending. Sundry prosecutions of trespassers, tenants, etc., had to be undertaken. Titles and surveys for several schools and teachers' cottages were completed.

AGRICULTURE.

A serious drought in the summer months, which particularly affected some of the best banana and sugar districts, caused a reduction in the major crops of the island that would otherwise have attained a very gratifying standard of production.

The exports of cacao for the year achieved a record both in quantity and value, while the recent increase in the price has encouraged planters to pay still more attention to this staple. The various plant nurseries distributed 145,000 cacao plants during the year, mainly to small settlers. By these agencies 340,000 cacao plants have been distributed to the peasantry during the past three years. The indications are that cacao will become of increasing commercial importance to Jamaica in the near future.

The export of coconuts also established a record coincident with the recovery of this industry from the severe blow administered by the hurricane of 1903. Large plantings have recently been made and this staple is rapidly assuming a position of importance in the resources of the Colony.

Sugar and rum have received some encouragement from recent happenings and the estates are looking forward to a profitable year. But for the drought the sugar industry would have benefited greatly from the rise in price of sugar due to the war. Progress is being made with the Cockpit irrigation works in Vere, which should serve to establish the sugar industry in this area on a sound basis in the near future.

The banana industry has had a prosperous year in 1914, but, owing to the summer drought and the collapse of the European market for bananas due to the war, there has recently been not only a reduced demand for the fruit, but also a lack both of quality and of quantity in the output of bananas from Jamaica.

The "Panama Disease" has given some cause for anxiety, owing to the difficulty in securing adequate measures of quarantine among the small owners whose fields were infected with the disease.

A stringent law was therefore passed and the staff of Inspectors has been increased so as to secure efficient control of this and other serious diseases of plants. The actual number of banana plants affected with Panama disease was small, but it appeared that the disease was being spread owing to the carelessness and disobedience of persons whose fields were attacked and that larger powers of control were necessary in order to stamp out the infection.

Only two cases of anthrax were dealt with during the year under the Contagious Diseases of Animals Law, and the general health of the livestock of the Colony has been good.

The Government Stock Farm at Hope seems now to be on a sound basis and closed the year with a surplus of £1,053 on the balance sheet, while the revenue earned was £1,778, as against the original estimate of £1,350.

Despite the loss of imported cattle to the value of £1,400, the live stock valuation shows a surplus of over £600 over the original expenditure.

Of the 55 bulls that have been distributed from the Farm to various breeders in the island, 21 were pedigree Red Polls, and 14 pedigree Jerseys from imported parents of the best breeding.

The experiments with guinea corn silage have shown that this valuable fodder can be produced at a cost of less than 6s. per ton, while the effects of a prolonged drought were successfully offset through the feeding of silage to the herd of cattle.

The educational work at the Farm School continues to progress, and despite war conditions there has been a full attendance of students at that institution.

A new station was established during the year on the Savanna, at Lititz, where trials are being made of drought-resistant crops suitable for this depressed district, where the rainfall is so scanty and irregular.

The staff of the Department of Agriculture has recently been strengthened by the addition of an entomologist.

SHIPPING.

The number and tonnage of ships reported in 1914 compared with the numbers reported in the year preceding were as follows :—

1914—	1,434	vessels with tonnage of	2,164,185	tons.
1913—	1,401	„ „ „ „	2,548,296	„

The corresponding figures in regard to vessels cleared were :—

1914—	1,424	vessels with tonnage of	2,142,663	tons.
1913—	1,400	„ „ „ „	2,569,827	„

Admiralty requirements due to the war and soaring charter rates, sufficiently account for decrease in tonnage and for the increase in the number of smaller craft employed.

The numbers of steam and sailing vessels reported are shown by the following figures :—

1914—	1,261	steamers with tonnage of	2,122,083	tons.
1913—	1,201	„ „ „ „	2,498,859	„
1914—	173	sailing vessels	42,102	„
1913—	200	„ „ „ „	49,437	„

The corresponding figures in regard to vessels cleared were :—

1914—	1,253	steamers with tonnage of	2,101,603	tons.
1913—	1,207	„ „ „	2,525,255	
1914—	171	sailing vessels	41,060	„
1913—	193	„ „ „	44,572	„

The division of the island's carrying trade between British and foreign tonnage will be sufficiently indicated by the following summary of the vessels reporting in 1914 and in 1913 :—

	Vessels.	Tons	Vessels.	Tons.
British steam in 1914 ..	445	1,115,934		
British sailing in 1914 ..	127	11,733	572	1,127,667
Foreign steam in 1914 ..	816	1,006,149		
Foreign sailing in 1914..	46	30,369	862	1,036,518
British steam in 1913 ..	515	1,442,556		
British sailing in 1913 ..	145	15,943	660	1,458,499
Foreign steam in 1913 ..	686	1,056,303		
Foreign sailing in 1913..	55	33,494	741	1,089,797

The following further abstract taken from the Collector-General's separate report and designed to show the growth within the last forty years of shipping visiting the island is of much interest :—

		Ships Reported.		Ships Cleared.	
		No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1874	..	808	381,777	829	384,601
1884	..	845	475,752	849	469,529
1894	..	1,131	774,014	1,136	790,326
1904	..	1,135	1,220,209	1,135	1,220,533
1914	..	1,434	2,164,185	1,424	2,142,663

In 1874 the average tonnage of a visiting ship was 468 tons ; during the past year the average tonnage per ship was over 1,500 tons.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Forty-one Laws were passed during the year 1914, nearly all of which were assented to by me in the financial year under review and 23 during the ordinary session of the Legislative Council in 1915, which,

owing to the closing of the session at an earlier date than usual, were also assented to by me in the same financial year. Of these the most important were :—

Law 6 of 1914 to amend the Criminal Law Amendment Law, 1906.

Law 19 of 1914 providing for the compulsory treatment of persons suffering from yaws.

Law 22 of 1914 to make provision with respect to the laying out of building lots and the opening of new streets.

Law 24 of 1914 prohibiting the navigation of aircraft for certain purposes.

Law 25 of 1914 to further amend Law 28 of 1904 entitled a "Law to consolidate and amend the Resident Magistrates Laws."

Law 26 of 1914 to provide for the apportionment between general revenue and parochial funds of certain expenses incurred in connection with the care of lunatics.

Law 31 of 1914 for preventing overcrowding on ships bringing steerage passengers to Jamaica and for providing life-saving appliances on such ships.

Law 33 of 1914 consolidating the Laws relating to the protection of birds and fish.

Laws 34 and 35 of 1914 consolidating the Laws relating to secondary and elementary education respectively.

Law 36 of 1914 providing for Bank notes being made legal tender.

Law 37 of 1914 providing for the establishment of the Jamaica Volunteer Defence Force.

Law 38 of 1914 to prevent the publication and transmission of naval and military intelligence at times to be determined by the Governor.

Law 39 of 1914 to render the Jamaica Constabulary Force liable to military service in case of invasion.

(The last four Laws were passed at the special session of the Legislative Council called in August shortly after the outbreak of war).

Law 1 of 1915 empowering the Governor to fix maximum retail prices of foodstuffs, etc.

Law 3 of 1915 to prevent the introduction and spread of plant disease.

Law 6 of 1915 to provide for the imposition of restrictions on aliens in time of war, etc.

Law 7 of 1915 to secure the obtaining of information during the present war as to stocks of articles of commerce and to take possession thereof.

Law 9 of 1915 giving powers for securing the public safety and defence of the island during the present war.

Law 13 of 1915 to provide for the protection of public stores.

Law 21 of 1915 to enable orders to be given for restricting the sale or consumption of intoxicating liquor during the war.

Law 22 of 1915 relating to trading with the enemy.

The usual financial measures and certain amending Laws were also passed.

IV.—PUBLIC EDUCATION.

The Director of Education furnished the following statistics :—

Year.	Schools on Annual Grant List at end of Financial Year.	Average Number of Scholars on Books.	Average Attendance for Year ended 31st March.	Per-centage on Average Attendance of Number on Books.	Total Payments to Elementary Schools and Teachers.
1914-15 ..	696	94,955	56,333	67·32	£67,440
1913-14 ..	697	96,757	55,411	61·66	£66,847

The annual examination of teachers and Training College students shows the following results :—

There were 127 Jamaica students presented, of whom 109 passed, 13 obtaining honours. Of the 17 students from British Guiana and the Leeward Islands all passed except four.

For the Pupil Teachers' examination 445 were presented and 225, or 51 per cent., passed; of volunteer candidates 2,349 were presented, and 810, or 34 per cent., passed.

The total amount expended on elementary education through the Department was £85,010, as compared with £83,937, and by the Public Works Department, in the building of Government Schools and schoolmasters' houses, £2,725, as compared with £10,407 in the previous year.

Notwithstanding the curtailment of expenditure consequent upon the war, it was found possible to provide better accommodation in certain places where it was needed, and to complete and equip three new Government Schools; seven sites for Government Schools were also acquired. The Director of Education remarks that gradually a healthier attitude of the question of school sanitation is being adopted. The scheme for the creation of Parish and District School Boards was practically completed and the success with which the work of these

Boards has been started is stated to be most encouraging. The Kingston Infant School was closed during the year. The immediate ground for this was the urgent need for economy which was disclosed on the consideration of the estimates for the current year. A party of 50 English teachers, members of the London Teachers' Association, visited Jamaica and spent a week in the island during the month of August.

The number of schools placed in the first class on the results of the annual examination is less by four, and those in the second class less by two than in the previous year; the number of third class schools has remained the same and the failures have increased from four to seven.

Industrial Schools.

The number of inmates of the Industrial Schools, male and female, was :—

Stony Hill	505
Shortwood	—
Alpha Cottage	208
Belmont	20
Happy Grove	10
Broughton	20
<hr/>	
A total of ..	763
<hr/>	

The Industrial School at Shortwood was closed on the 10th February, 1915, and the inmates, 15 girls and one boy, returned to the care of parents or others able and willing to take them. The question of closing this school had long been under consideration and was decided on after reports from the Director of Education that the Institution was not sufficiently serving the purpose for which it was established, and was costing a high rate of maintenance which fell heavily on the parishes.

Secondary Education.

The expenditure of the endowed schools during the year was as follows :—

	£
Jamaica College	3,272
Munro and Dickenson's	5,686
Wolmer's	3,191
Manning's	No report.
Rusea's	403
Titchfield	1,915
Beckford and Smith's	341
Manchester Schools	330
Vere Schools	1,327
Montego Bay School	888
Guthrie Davidson's	68
<hr/>	
	£17,421
<hr/>	

Exclusive of Manning's and Beckford and Smith's, the total number of pupils was 1,396, which include those receiving elementary education in the Titchfield Schools.

The Jamaica Scholarship for Boys for 1915 was won by a pupil from the Jamaica College, and that for girls by a pupil from Hampton (Munro and Dickenson). The £60 scholarship was awarded to a pupil from Potsdam.

192 boys and girls are reported to have passed the Cambridge examinations, 52 of whom did so with honours.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(a) *Public Hospital, Kingston.*

Indoor patients treated, 3,123 ; outdoor patients, including paupers, 9,007 ; dressings done for outpatients, 22,667 ; prescriptions made up, 17,652 ; total surgical operations, 1,289 ; dental cases, 1,966 ; daily average number of inmates, 207 ; total cost of maintenance, £10,869 ; receipts, £725 15s. 4d.

(b) *Victoria Jubilee Lying-in-Hospital.*

Number of patients admitted, 651 ; 8 pupil nurses admitted for training, seven of whom passed and received certificates ; average daily number of patients, 16 ; receipts, £545 6s. 1d. ; expenditure, £1,243 19s. 1d.

(c) *Lunatic Asylum.*

Number of patients on 31st March, 1915, 1,399, an increase of 58 since beginning of the year. Total number of patients under treatment during year, 1,670 ; daily average resident, 1,386 ; rate of recovery, 47·27 per cent ; admissions, 329 ; discharges, 161 ; deaths, 110 ; death-rate, 7·87 per cent.

The proportion of insane is one to 631 population.

Cost of maintenance, £20,337 ; receipts, £9,827.

(d) *Lepers' Home.*

Patients on 31st March, 1914..	..	..	120
Admitted .. .. .	..	..	21
			<hr/>
			141
Discharged .. .. .	..	..	5
Absconded .. .. .	..	..	8
Died .. .. .	..	..	10
			<hr/>
			23
			<hr/>
On 31st March, 1915 .. .. .	..	..	118

The death-rate was 7 per cent. ; cost of maintenance, £1,099 7s. 8d. ; receipts nil.

The Medical Superintendent reports that the treatment by "Antileprol" has been continued in suitable cases during the year, and observes that when the drug is administered in cases which present themselves in the early stages of the disease, the results are excellent and most encouraging.

(e) *Government Savings Bank.*

The liability of the bank to its depositors on current account was decreased during the year by £33,886, the decrease on ordinary accounts being £26,987, and in Government accounts £6,899.

The ordinary deposits amounted during the year to £85,212, a decrease of £21,435, and the withdrawals to £112,199, a decrease of £1,325, as compared with the previous year.

The balance-sheet on 31st March, 1915, shows a liability to depositors of £285,939.

The income and expenditure of the Savings Bank for the year may be summarised as below.

Income.

Interest on investments	£10,061	10	10½
Miscellaneous receipts	8	17	1
	£10,070	7	11

Expenditure.

Interest on deposits	£6,824	15	0½
Loss on realisation of investments	1,297	18	3
Balance carried to general revenue	1,947	14	7½
	£10,070	7	11

The number of pass books examined was 5,346.

(f) *Registration of Titles.*

Work was steadily carried on; the number of titles registered during the year was 882.

The Titles Assurance Fund amounted at the end of the year to £6.281 8s. 3d.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Courts, Police, and Prisons.

The judicial statistics show that the total number of convictions in Circuit Courts was 98, as compared with 85 in 1913-1914; of convictions in the Resident Magistrates' Courts, 8,234, as compared with 8,628; and of summary convictions 15,973, as compared with 14,832.

Convictions for praedial larceny were 2,009, as compared with 2,369 in the previous year.

Commenting on these latter figures the Attorney General remarks :

“ Efforts are being made to check this class of offence by encouraging the action of ‘ Authorized persons ’ under the provisions of Law 4 of 1909.”

There were 3 convictions for murder in the course of the year and 3 for manslaughter, comparing with 7 and 3 respectively in the previous year.

The committals to the prisons during the year numbered 5,575, and to lock-ups for short terms 2,204, making a total of 7,779, as compared with 7,788 in the previous year, a decrease of 9.

The re-convictions during the year amounted to 2,470, of which 763 were second convictions, 538 third, and 1,169 fourth and upwards. During 1913-1914 the re-convictions numbered 1,918.

The daily average of prisoners in custody in the Penitentiary and Saint Catherine District Prison was 1,314, as compared with 1,456 during the previous year. There were 31 deaths in the prisons, as compared with 59 during 1913-1914. There were 3 executions of capital punishment. In the previous year there were 4.

Considering the institutions separately: 19 deaths occurred in the General Penitentiary, representing a rate of 24·39 per 1,000. At Saint Catherine District Prison 12 deaths occurred, representing a rate of 22·64 per 1,000, which is a very great improvement on the previous year, when it was 60·94 per 1,000. The state and discipline of the prisons have been satisfactory; four corporal punishments were inflicted for breaches of discipline.

The reformatory branch at the District Prison contained 28 lads on 31st March. The inmates have a building and compound separate from those occupied by the regular prisoners in the District Prison.

During the year 1914-1915, 168 persons were under supervision as probationers under Law 27 of 1909. From these probationers 852 reports were received. Fourteen probationers were brought before the Court for subsequent offences, showing 8 per cent. of lapses.

The gross expenditure for the General Penitentiary amounted to £15,729, and for the Saint Catherine District Prison £7,452, total £23,181. The gross earnings in the case of the General Penitentiary

were £3,225, and of the Saint Catherine District Prison, £1,452. The yield of the Saint Catherine District Prison Farm was valued at £1,138. £611 of that amount is the value of articles grown and consumed by the prisoners, thereby reducing the cost of the prison by that amount.

Police.

The monthly average number of officers and men below the allowed strength during the year was 22. The number of days absent from duty on account of illness was 11,431, 1,641 more than 1913–1914, and 1,491 less than 1912–1913; 847 men were treated in hospitals, and 619 in barracks or in private quarters. The figures in 1913–14 were 626 and 641 respectively.

The number of cases reported to the Police and Magistrates was 36,823, those prosecuted 31,069, and convictions were obtained in 21,394 cases, as compared with 37,710, 31,430, and 19,672, respectively; in the previous year 131 were under remand for trial. The incidence of crime per 10,000 of population was 442·91 against 453·59, 424·25, and 408·92 for the three previous years.

There were 33 habitual criminals under police supervision, and 2,461 under police surveillance during the year.

The sub-officers and men travelled 632,876 miles in the execution of their duty, as compared with 651,774 miles in the previous year.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The estimated population of the Island on the 31st March, 1915, was 883,158. This figure is arrived at as follows:—

Estimated population on 31st March, 1914		864,864
Births registered, 1914–15	34,208	
Deaths registered, 1914–15	18,802	
	—	15,406
		<u>880,270</u>
Migration:—		
Arrivals—general	15,218	
Arrivals—East Indians	Nil	
	<u>15,218</u>	
Departures—general	12,280	
Departures—East Indians	50	
	<u>12,330</u>	
		<u>2,888</u>
		<u>883,158</u>

Of the general arrivals and departures 9,978 and 6,643, respectively, were labourers, and show a net emigration of 3,335 persons of this class. The remainders, 5,240 arrivals and 5,687 departures, represent a net emigration of 447 persons, of whom 50 were East Indians.

Migration of labourers took place chiefly in respect of the following countries :—

	Departures.	Returned.	Excess. Departures.	Excess. Returns.
Central America	5,788	8,910	—	3,122
Cuba	749	639	110	—
Hayti	61	84	—	23
Other Countries (American and West Indian) ..	45	345	—	300
Total	6,643	9,978	110	3,445

The mean Island population for the year, that is, the population on the 30th September, 1914, ascertained by adding to the census figures the excess of births over deaths registered since the census, was 878,003. On these figures the marriages, births, and deaths have been calculated.

The following is the number of marriages, births, and deaths registered during the year, with the rates per 1,000 for this and the preceding year :—

		Rate per 1,000.	
		1914-5.	1913-14.
Marriages	2,721	3·0	3·1
Births	34,208	38·9	35·3
Deaths	18,802	21·4	21·7

Of the births, 22,861, or 66·8 per 100 were illegitimate. This is the highest island rate recorded since the compulsory registration of births commenced in 1878. The rate was 64·5 in 1913-1914.

The general death-rate decreased by ·3 per 1,000, but the proportion, due to deaths of infants under 5 years of age, shows an increase of 3·8 per cent. Of the total mortality the deaths of infants were :—

Under one year	5,722 or 30·4 per cent.
One year ..	1,584 or 8·4 per cent.
Two years ..	569 or 3·0 per cent.
Three years ..	370 or 2·0 per cent.
Four years ..	257 or 1·4 per cent.
	8,502 or 45·2 per cent.
1913-1914 ..	7,765 or 41·4 per cent.

Comparing the infant mortality with the births during the year, 34,208 infants were born, and 7,306 died at one year of age or under, equal to 21·3 per cent. The percentage under 5 years was 24·8.

There was great variation in both the birth and death-rates in different parts of the island. In the case of the former the lowest were in St. Andrew, 54·9; St. Ann, 60·5; and Manchester, 62·4, while the highest were in St. Thomas, 72·1 and Hanover, 71·7. The death-rate in the parishes of St. Andrew, 26·3; St. Thomas, 24·5; Portland, 23·8; St. Mary, 22·7; Trelawny, 22·8; and St. Catherine, 22·8, were higher than in 1913-14; in Kingston, 26·8; St. Ann, 17·1; St. James, 21·9; Hanover, 22·2; Westmoreland, 20·3; St. Elizabeth, 17·4; and Manchester, 15·9, they were lower and in Clarendon there was no change.

Uncertified cases of death were 71·6 per cent., compared with 70·0 in 1913-1914 and 75·1 in 1910-1911 for the whole Island. The figures for Kingston were 14·1 in 1914-1915 and 15·7 in 1913-1914.

The principal causes of death in Kingston were as follows :—

Causes.	1913-14.		1914-15.	
	Number of Deaths.	Rate per 100 of Total Deaths.	Number of Deaths.	Rate per 100 of Total Deaths.
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	290	16·7	241	14·9
Phthisis	163	9·4	146	9·0
Heart Disease	110	6·3	103	6·3
Enteric Fever	73	4·2	67	4·1
Atrophy, Icterus, and Scleroma of new born (under 1 year)	185	10·6	169	10·4
Atrophy, Icterus, and Inanition (1 year and upwards)	45	2·5	31	1·9
Chronic Bright's Disease	74	4·2	72	4·4
Bronchitis	59	3·4	45	2·7
Dysentery	47	2·7	49	3·0
Pneumonia	41	2·3	59	3·6
Pellagra	20	1·1	21	1·2

Deaths from malaria in Kingston numbered 22, the same as in 1913-1914, and from fever (not otherwise defined) 5 against 21.

Public Health.

The expenditure of the Medical Department during the year amounted to £77,183, as against £75,292 in 1913-1914.

The expenditure of this department in the course of the last seven years is as follows :—

1908-9	..	..	..	..	£56,404
1909-10	..	..	..	..	£58,317
1910-11	..	..	..	..	£64,986
1911-12	..	..	..	..	£68,626
1912-13	..	..	..	..	£74,621
1913-14	..	..	..	..	£75,292
1914-15	..	..	..	..	£77,183

This does not include the cost of building, which was £1,816 in the past year, bringing up the total to £78,999, or nearly 8 per cent. of the revenue collected.

By special request of the officer in charge of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Dr. Scott, the Government Bacteriologist, was given permission to attach himself for duty at camp in order to assist in the medical work there, due to shortage of medical officers caused by the war.

With a view to obtaining a better educated and generally higher class of dispensary student than has in some instances been entering the dispenser's profession in recent years, it was decided to make the preliminary examination to be passed by such students somewhat more severe than in the past.

During the year there was established a travelling dispensary with a hospital tent to accommodate 12 patients, with a view specially to the treatment of yaws and also for the purpose of affording medical relief to that class of persons in the country districts, who, though not paupers, are yet too poor to afford the lowest fee for attendance by a District Medical Officer under the Ticket System. 2,322 cases of yaws were treated with salvasan in the several Public General Hospitals and Medical Districts during the year.

The new hospital buildings at Port Maria were completed during the year and the old premises vacated. The new buildings are a great improvement on the old premises, which was formerly a rum store, providing accommodation for 120 ordinary patients and many more in case of emergency, and having an infective diseases block.

A Cottage Hospital, providing accommodation for six patients, was opened at Ulster Spring in the upper part of the parish of Trelawny, thus supplying a long felt want in this district.

Towards the end of the year, Dr. H. H. Howard, Inspecting Medical Officer of the Rockefeller International Health Commission, visited Jamaica in order to make investigations of the incidence of Hookworm disease and infection in Jamaica. In company with the medical officers of the districts he visited various insanitary spots and several estates employing coolie labour.

He subsequently submitted a report of his investigations and made recommendations with a view to the eradication of the disease; unfortunately, on account of the financial position, it has not been found possible to act, for the present, on his suggestions, but it is hoped that some permanent benefit to the Island will result from Dr. Howard's visit.

The treatment by thymol has been continued during the year, 8,408 cases having been treated at the various country hospitals. In addition, 227 East Indian immigrants were thymolised on the estates.

The Surgeon of the General Penitentiary reports that out of 376 newly admitted prisoners who were tested, 235, or about 61 per cent., were found to be infected.

The Surgeon reports that most encouraging results are being obtained from the use of a strong infusion of quassia (bitterwood) and that these compare so favourably with those obtained from thymol that, for reasons of safety, the use of the latter drug had been entirely discontinued.

The reports of the District Medical Officers on the sanitary conditions of the estates employing East Indian labour show that while they may be regarded as being, in the main, satisfactory, there is much room for improvement, especially with regard to the provision of proper latrine accommodation. This is a matter which has been given much consideration from time to time, and steps have recently been taken to obtain particulars of a type of latrine which will be acceptable to the East Indians.

Quinine appears to be regularly administered on most of the estates.

Vomiting Sickness.

This disease is reported as having been very rife this year, the number of deaths being 196, 106, or 54 per cent., of which were medically certified. In the previous year 133 deaths occurred, 51.1 per cent. of which were certified. The largest numbers of deaths were in St. James, 42; Clarendon, 41; Trelawny, 32.

The outbreak in St. James was exceptionally severe in the Montego Bay District, so much so that the Government Bacteriologist was sent down to make investigations.

The investigations were commenced towards the end of the financial year under review, and were continued in the current year, and the results would seem to uphold the suggestion which had previously been advanced by Dr. Scott, that certain symptoms of the disease indicated the action of a poison.

In the first report submitted by Dr. Scott, he stated that after making enquiries into 32 cases, there was sufficient evidence to make out a strong case against the "ackee," which is largely used as an article of food by the class of persons who are generally attacked by this so-called "vomiting sickness," but that the chain of evidence could not be regarded as complete without confirmation by means of animal experiment.

People generally in the Island have always regarded ackees as poisonous under certain conditions. The condition to which most suspicion is attached is where ackees have not opened naturally but have been forced open after falling from the tree unopened.

Dr. Scott obtained specimens of these suspicious ackees and treated them in the same way as in the cases in St. James, using the water in which they had been boiled for experimental administration to animals. Three kittens and a dog were experimented upon and in each case post-mortems were performed, the results being very similar to those seen in cases of human "vomiting sickness."

The soup or pot-water given to these animals is that which is usually given to children, amongst whom the number of cases of so-called vomiting sickness is greatly preponderant.

Dr. Scott also shows that the disease corresponds exactly with the main ackee season; that the ackee does not grow, at all events to any extent, in any other of the West Indian Islands, thus explaining the limitation of the disease to Jamaica; that the symptoms are those of an acute intoxication; and that the symptoms were most acute in the cases of the younger children of a family who receive the pot-water. Dr. Scott also shows that the disease has no preference for sex, and explains that its attacking West Indian natives in greater numbers than the East Indian or white population, is due to the East Indian rarely eating ackee and being much more careful of his children, while the white are more particular in the selection of the fruit used.

The symptoms, post-mortem appearances, and histological findings in the animals experimented on, Dr. Scott reports, are the same as in cases of human vomiting sickness and his opinion is that the condition is an acute intoxication by a hot aqueous extract of unopened or unwholesome ackees. It should be mentioned that the experiments on animals were made after the close of the year under review and the matter will be further referred to in the Report on 1915-16.

Malaria.

It was not found possible to continue the special vote of £2,000 for the abatement of malaria.

The number of cases admitted to the various hospitals, other than in Kingston, for malaria was 6,975.

The District Medical Officer for Kingston reports that malaria seems to be disappearing from Kingston; a similar comment is made by the District Medical Officer of the Four Paths District of Clarendon in respect of that district. In some of the other districts of the Island there were outbreaks of more or less severity.

General.

The water supplies of the several towns and villages are on the whole satisfactory. A good and ample pipe supply was installed in Chapelton during the year.

Sanitation generally is reported as having improved since the passing of the Health Law, No. 35, of 1910, more interest and action having been taken by the several local Boards of Health.

The arrangements made for the treatment of out-patients at hospitals in 1910-11 resulted in a further increase in the numbers treated. During 1914-15 the numbers were :—

At Kingston Hospital	9,007
At public general hospitals	16,561
In districts	49,071
Under the ticket system of reduced payment ..	925
	<hr/>
	75,564
	<hr/>

The total number of cases treated in public general hospitals during the year under review was 26,875. There were 610 deaths in hospitals. Adding the cases treated in the Kingston Public Hospital, 3,123, the Jubilee (Lying-in) Hospital, 651, the Lunatic Asylum, 1,670, the Lepers' Home, 141, the total number of patients treated in Government hospitals and asylums was 32,460.

The principal diseases for which patients were admitted into the public general hospitals were as follows :—

Diseases.	1913-14.		1914-15.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Malarial Fever—				
Intermittent	5,885	29	6,710	40
Remittent	217	23	183	18
Pernicious	9	2	14	4
Skin Diseases	6,408	5	4,533	8
Diseases of the Digestive System ..	1,610	91	1,395	88
Local Injuries	2,089	30	1,701	17
Rheumatism	1,081	—	896	1
Diseases of the Respiratory System	940	45	682	54
Disease of the Circulatory System	198	38	174	40
Diseases of the Cellular Tissue ..	722	7	798	10
Ankylostomiasis (Hook-worm) ..	1,815	17	1,595	17
Gonorrhoea	459	—	513	1
Syphilis	761	15	630	16
Diseases of the Eye	402	—	309	—
Blackwater Fever	8	1	2	1
Enteric Fever—Typhoid	304	88	226	58
Paratyphoid	85	9	19	5
Yaws	569	1	696	—

Besides the investigation of vomiting sickness previously referred to, the Government Bacteriologist and his Assistant conducted examinations of specimens for correct diagnoses of diseases, of rats for plague infection, the results of which were uniformly negative, and for testing the purity of water supplies. Special research work was carried out in regard to typhoid bacillus carriers and contagious abortion of cattle amongst the cattle at the Government Stock Farm. With the help of the new Assistant Bacteriologist the total number of specimens examined during the year was 12,930; in the previous year it was 6,697.

608 passengers were confined at the Quarantine Station during the year; 47 vessels were fumigated; 2,068 packages of passengers' baggage were disinfected, and 68 bags of mails.

During the year arrangements were made with the British Consular officers in the Central American and certain of the South American Republics for the immediate notification by telegram of cases of infective disease and in the case of plague of suspected cases also, and it is hoped that this arrangement will tend to keep the Island free from plague or serious infective diseases.

Qualified medical men were appointed as Port Health Officers at Port Antonio and Montego Bay during the year, but the arrangement was discontinued at the end of the year on account of the necessity for retrenchment, and it being thought that no risk would be run by reverting to the former system of Visiting Officers at those ports, the quarantine arrangements for dealing with vessels being now so strict.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

The Postmaster for Jamaica furnishes the following figures, comparing the postal revenues for 1914-1915 with those of the two previous years :—

	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.
Postage	£40,992 13 4	£42,213 8 1	£38,790 1 8
Commission on Money Orders	364 3 10	315 0 6	684 15 11
Local commission on British Postal Orders..	753 19 4	787 2 0	943 3 1
Commission on Local Postal Orders	402 14 2	—	—
Miscellaneous	583 3 9	750 16 10	1,068 17 9
Telegraph	8,125 4 10	7,811 9 8	8,255 4 11
	<u>£51,221 9 3</u>	<u>£51,877 17 1</u>	<u>£49,742 3 4</u>

These statistics show a decrease of £2,135 in gross revenue as compared with the previous year. The expenditure of the year by the department amounted to £52,651, as against £50,710 in 1913-1914.

The progress of the department is illustrated by the following figures :—

	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
	£	£
1894-1895.	27,962	33,904
1904-1905.	33,447	31,725
1914-1915.	49,742	52,651

As compared with the two previous years the numbers of letters and postcards were :—

				At General Post Office.		
				1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.
Outwards	..	..	..	4,493,416	4,895,811	4,105,119
Inwards	..	..	..	5,499,762	6,170,649	5,162,326
Total	..	..		9,993,178	11,066,460	9,267,445
				At District Post Offices.		
Total				1,486,638	3,144,523	2,007,910
Grand Total				11,479,816	14,210,983	11,275,355
Telegrams sent and received				223,635	226,497	228,172

There is an increase of 1,675 in the number of telegrams sent during the year, and of £443 15s. 3d. in telegraph revenue.

One new District Post Office was opened during the year; the total number in existence was 199.

During the year it became necessary to increase the rates of commission on Money Orders on the United Kingdom, United States of America, and Canada, on account of the rise in bank rates as a result of the war.

5,778 money orders, for £54,012 1s. 6d. were issued in Jamaica, and 26,559 orders for £65,285 10s. 4d., the issues of other countries,

were paid here. The principal item is £58,851 13s. 11*d.* paid on behalf of the United States, chiefly on account of remittances from the Canal Zone.

British Postal Orders were issued of the face value of £74,33 13s. 6*d.*; the amount actually sold was £74,991 16s. 6*d.*, and Orders for £45,192 were cashed in the Colony.

47,469 parcels, of the declared value of £56,860 0s. 1*d.* were imported by parcel post, and 11,997 of the value of £11,164 3s. 5*d.* despatched.

IX.—GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

The total receipts were £179,381, against £176,677 in 1913-14, the expenditure, exclusive of debt charges, £107,265, against £112,529 in 1913-14, making the net earnings £72,116, against £64,148. The receipts exceeded those of 1913-1914 by £2,704. There was a decrease of expenditure of £5,264 as compared with the previous year. These figures do not include an expenditure of £6,284 on Railway Pier No. 3. After paying debt charges on the capital expenditure, which amounts to £2,666,725, the net loss to the Public Treasury on the working of the railway system amounted to £45,972 for the year. The loss for the thirteen years to 1913-14 had been £803,711, bringing up the total since the line was taken over by the Government to £849,683.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department for the year under review was £160,823, summarised as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Salaries and other Departmental Charges ..	19,330	2	2
Main Roads and Bridges, Maintenance ..	86,860	13	8
New Works	11,769	5	11
Public Buildings, Maintenance	7,266	19	4
Public Buildings, New Works	4,694	4	3
Lighthouses	1,529	16	8
Rio Cobre Irrigation Works	2,636	6	9
Spanish Town Water Works	755	2	1
Government Schools	2,725	9	0
Telegraph and Telephones	2,804	12	8
	£140,372	12	6
Adding the work done for other Departments and Parochial Boards and paid for from other votes, and for Relief Works	20,450	12	3
	£160,823	4	9

This amount is £13,801 15s. 2d. less than the expenditure of the previous year, and the smallest since 1907–1908.

The total length of main roads at the end of the year was 2,213 miles, 5½ chains.

The average cost of ordinary maintenance of roads per mile for the whole Island was £33 17s. 0d. and, including special works of improvement, £38 9s. 9d., of which £2 4s. 7d. per mile was due to flood damage.

The average cost per mile in Kingston was £80 2s. 3d., and in Manchester £21 9s. 6d., being the highest and lowest respectively.

Owing to the necessity for economy as a result of the war, expenditure was deferred on every work which could be postponed without positive risk or loss to the Government.

The average rainfall for the whole financial year was over 62 inches, or about 81 per cent. of the general average. The expenditure on flood damage was therefore small.

The road surfaces generally were maintained in good condition. The system of rolling the roads appears to increase the life of the material 50 per cent. and over.

No specially important new works were executed. The new Hospital at Port Maria and the Cottage Hospital at Ulster Spring were completed.

All light-houses were maintained in good repair and the services efficiently rendered.

Certain works for the Imperial Government were undertaken during the year. These works involved the haulage of 2,500 tons of machinery, buildings, and building material, over many miles of hilly road to a site some 3,500 feet above sea level.

During the year the Railway and Public Works Stores were separated. This has made it possible to provide for the better care of the "plant" used by the Public Works Department, besides being the means of finding use for certain forgotten articles.

XI.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The abnormal conditions consequent upon the European war have very seriously affected the Colony. Shortage of shipping facilities has been the foremost factor in this connection, affecting both the export of produce and the import trade.

In spite of these circumstances the revised estimate of revenue has been more than realised.

The one industry in the Colony which the war has materially benefited is the sugar industry, which has reaped the advantage due to the diminished output of beet sugar.

The demand for cocoa has been of benefit to growers of this product in enhancing prices.

Dyewoods also have, to a limited extent, profited by the increased demand.

The drought in the early part of 1914 resulted in a serious diminution both in the quality and the quantity of the fruit produced in the banana industry. Seasonable weather in the latter part of the year 1914 and early in 1915, gives promise of a much improved condition of affairs in this respect.

I am of opinion, provided no set-back is experienced during the forthcoming year, now that the circumstances inevitable to the conditions arising from the war have been realised and dealt with, there is no need for serious anxiety as to the prospects for the future, except as to the provision of adequate shipping facilities for the Island produce.*

Upon the outbreak of war the small settlers were urged to plant increased quantities of foodstuffs in view of the expected rise in the cost of imported foods. and due to this precaution, and helped by good rains, there has been an ample supply of provisions, counteracting to some considerable extent the diminution of purchasing power brought about by the effects of the war.

The steps taken upon the outbreak of the war and later by legislation, to prevent an unwarrantable increase in the price of imported food has kept prices within reasonable limits, and has satisfactorily achieved its purpose.

The tourist traffic to the Island suffered seriously and the falling off in the number of tourists was very marked.

The expressions of loyalty to the Empire and to the Mother Country, and the patriotism of all classes since the outbreak of the war, demonstrate the close ties of affection which bind this Colony to the Empire and to the Mother Country, and practical proof of this sentiment may be found in the generous contributions from all sections of the people of Jamaica to the funds for the war, and to their gifts of fruit and presents to the soldiers at the front and to sailors of the Grand Fleet. About £20,000 has been collected, in the majority of cases in small sums, and has been, or is being, transmitted to the various war funds. In addition to this the Colony has voted £50,000 to purchase sugar as a gift to the Mother Country.

* Since the above was written the hurricane of the night of 12-13 August has occurred.

The Colony has likewise raised and maintained a defence force of mounted troops and infantry, which has reached a very creditable standard of efficiency, and which is a valuable addition to the regular forces of the Island.

Considerable numbers of young men also have proceeded to the United Kingdom with the object of joining the army, and many have obtained commissions in the new armies.

I have &c.,

W. H. MANNING,

Governor.

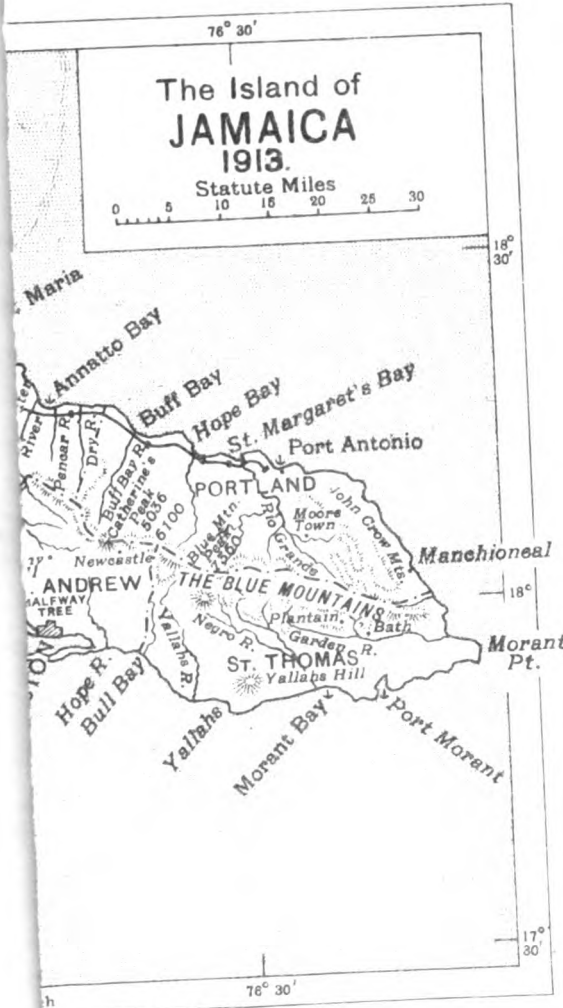
The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,

&c., &c., &c.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies.

is Majesty's
stained from



Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1913.

Year.

1913

"

1913-1914

"

"

"

"

1914

1913-1914

"

1913

1913-1914

"

1914

"

"

"

"

1914-1915

1914

1914-1915

1914

1914-1915

1914

1914-1915

1914

"

t.

1907-8 and

1908-9.

1908-9.

ta-percha.

1910.

f Ancient

zc.

1911.

1912.

c.

1913.

Settlement.

The Colony has likewise raised and maintained a defence force of mounted troops and infantry, which has reached a very creditable standard of efficiency, and which is a valuable addition to the regular forces of the Island.

Considerable numbers of young men also have proceeded to the United Kingdom with the object of joining the army, and many have obtained commissions in the new armies.

I have &c.,

W. H. MANNING,

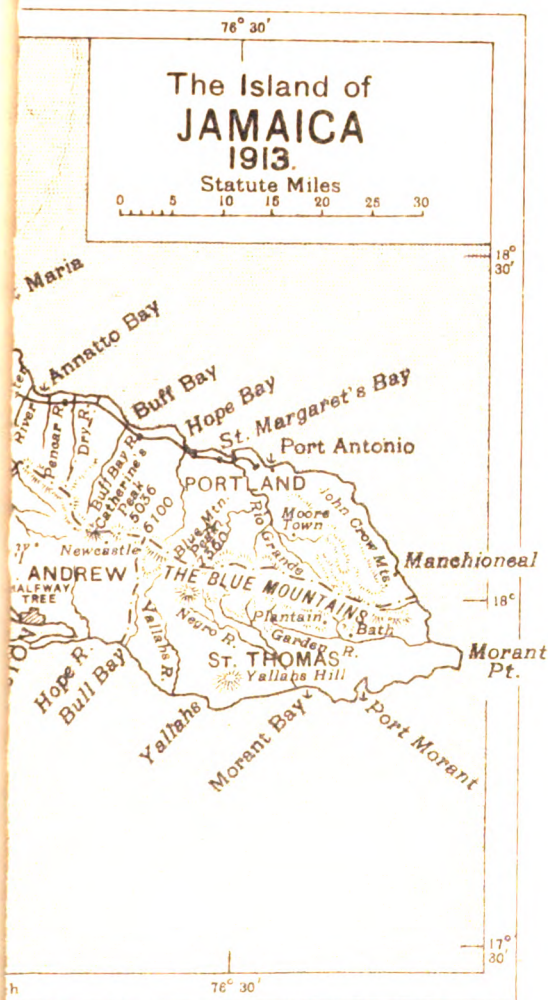
Governor.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,

&c., &c., &c.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies.



Ordnance Survey Southampton 1913.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

A N N U A L.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
825	Southern Nigeria.. ..	1913
826	Mauritius	"
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913-1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland.. ..	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Wei-hai-wei	"
846	Seychelles.. ..	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	1914
859	Gold Coast	"

M I S C E L L A N E O U S.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
BY BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

1915

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 861.

G A M B I A .

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 805.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd.7622-52]. Price 1½d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I.—FINANCIAL	4
II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	6
III.—LEGISLATION	10
IV.—EDUCATION	11
V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	12
VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS	13
VII.—VITAL STATISTICS	14
VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES	18
IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	19
WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE	21
SKETCH MAP.	

No. 861.

GAMBIA.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 805.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Bathurst, Gambia,

14th April, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit herewith my Report on the Blue Book for the year 1914.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. T. CAMPBELL,

Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency

E. J. Cameron, Esq., C.M.G.,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief,

The Gambia.

By Transfer

MAY 7 1919

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1914.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. *Revenue*.—The total revenue for the year was £86,070 12s. 7d. as compared with £96,221 13s. 11d. in 1912, and £124,995 0s. 5d. in 1913.

2. The estimated Revenue for the year was £100,888, or £14,817 7s. 5d. more than was actually received. The estimated revenue would have been obtained in the ordinary course of events. The influence of the war upon the trade of the Colony was most noticeable at an early date.

3. The amounts collected under the various heads of revenue during the years 1913 and 1914, with the several increases or decreases, were :—

Head of Revenue.	1913.	1914.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	97,691	60,525	—	37,166
Port Dues	1,987	1,816	—	170
Licences, Excise, etc. ..	3,004	1,681	—	1,323
Fees of Court	2,681	2,924	242	—
Post Office	1,714	1,376	—	338
Rent of Government Property	507	450	—	57
Government Vessels	1	—	—	1
Interest	4,883	4,521	—	361
Protectorate	10,613	11,150	536	—
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	1,236	974	—	261
Land Sales	673	650	—	23
Total	124,990	86,067	778	39,700

4. The principal increases were in (1) Fees of Court or Office, etc., and (2) Protectorate, and are accounted for by (1) increase in Court Fees, Customs Fees, Hospital Receipts, and Colonial Registrar's Fees, and (2) by a large influx of "Strange Farmers" with consequent increases in Hut Tax and Farm Rents.

5. The marked depression in trade due to the war and the consequent reduction in Imports, account for the large falling off under the heads "Customs" and "Port" Dues, while the decreases under "Licences" and "Interest" are attributable to the same causes. There has also been a decrease under the head "Post Office," due to a falling off in the sale of stamps to dealers in Europe.

6. *Expenditure*.—The expenditure for the year was £120,921 6s. 5d., an increase of £25,712 6s. 5d. over that for 1913. The estimated expenditure was £108,375, or £12,546 6s. 5d. less than was actually incurred.

7. The following is a

COMPARATIVE RETURN OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE 1910-1914.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1910.. ..	82,880	63,301
1911.. ..	86,454	71,390
1912.. ..	96,221	81,340
1913.. ..	124,990	95,209
1914.. ..	86,071	120,921

8. There was no important change in taxation during the year.

9. On the 31st December, 1913, assets exceeded liabilities by £137,585 3s. 5d.; a year later this excess was £102,734 9s. 7d., a decrease of £34,850 13s. 10d., chiefly due to overdrafts at the bank and at the Crown Agents.

10. Investments in Government Securities amounted on the 31st December, 1914, to £120,276 13s. 5d., which also represents their cost price as compared with £98,613 18s. 10d. invested on the 31st December, 1913.

11. The West African coinage, introduced during 1913, is current in the Colony and Protectorate. Silver is legal to any amount. English coins are also in circulation as well as a number of five franc pieces, of which latter the exchange value is three shillings and tenpence halfpenny. The Bank of British West Africa, Limited, is the only one in the Colony. The average rate of exchange for bills drawn on London during 1913 was one per cent.

12. The Board of Health is the only Municipal Board in the Colony. It is composed of official and non-official members, the Senior Medical Officer being president.

13. The Board of Health derives its revenue from a five-per-cent. rate levied on property, annually assessed, in the town of Bathurst, from Market and Slaughter-house fees, a Government Grant-in-aid, and from miscellaneous receipts. In 1914 the revenue comprised, local rates £1,387 6s. 0d.; slaughter-house fees, £109 5s. 3d.; grant-in-aid, £2,327 0s. 0d.; and Miscellaneous receipts £57 15s. 11d., a total of £3,881 7s. 2d., as compared with £3,758 13s. 3d. in 1913.

14. The expenditure of the Board, including personal emoluments, scavenging, lighting, upkeep of horses and carts, etc., amounted to £3,419 10s. 11d., as against £2,778 6s. 7d. in 1913.

(C200)

B

15. The revenue and expenditure of the Board of Health during the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1910.. ..	1,286	1,443
1911.. ..	2,237	2,199
1912.. ..	2,867	2,588
1913.. ..	3,758	2,778
1914.. ..	3,881	3,419

16. MacCarthy Square, situated in the centre of the town of Bathurst and used as a parade and general recreation ground, is under a Board similarly constituted as the Board of Health. The upkeep of the square is provided for by a grant—£125 in 1914—from the Government.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

17. *Trade*.—The trade of the Colony during the first seven months gave every promise of reaching a record. The sudden outbreak of hostilities in August caused a large drop in imports which continued during the remainder of the year and resulted in a serious reduction.

18. *Imports*.—The total value of all imports was £688,007 as compared with £1,091,129 in 1913.

Specie.—Bullion and specie were imported during 1914 to the value of £299,668, as against £471,835 in 1913.

19. The following is a table of the

CHIEF ARTICLES IMPORTED AND THE VALUE THEREOF DURING 1913–1914.

Article.	1913.	1914.
	£	£
Cotton Goods	201,797	72,416
Hardware	27,276	30,686
Kola Nuts	91,381	74,176
Rice	62,512	78,535
Spirits	17,141	4,993
Sugar	19,422	8,729
Salt	3,630	2,052
Soap	7,556	5,280
Tobacco	15,488	4,504
Wine	4,585	2,311

20. *Increases and Decreases*.—From the foregoing table it will be seen that there were increases under two heads only. One of these, hardware, has been increasing steadily during the last three years.

The numerous decreases are due largely to the reductions made in imports during the latter half of the year and to over-importation during 1913.

21. Excluding specie the percentages of imports from the various countries in 1913 and 1914 were as follows :—

	1913.	1914.
Great Britain	40·64	41·40
British Possessions	15·26	20·19
	— 55·90	— 61·59
France and French Possessions	27·55	21·63
Germany	10·25	11·58
Other Countries	6·30	5·20

22. The condition of the import trade during the last five years will be seen in the following table :—

Article.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
	£	£	£	£	£
Specie ..	208,544	384,784	285,223	471,835	299,668
Other articles	370,439	422,334	471,630	619,294	388,339
Total ..	578,983	807,118	756,853	1,091,129	688,007

23. The total value of all exports was £926,127, as compared with £867,187 in 1913.

Specie.—Specie to the value of £232,469 was exported; this was £27,688 more than in the previous year.

24. The following return gives the

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF EXPORT AND THEIR VALUES IN 1913 AND 1914.

Article.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1913.	1914.	1913.	1914.
			£	£
Calabashes .. packages	1,739	922	2,226	1,063
Ground-nuts .. tons	67,404	66,885	622,098	650,461
Hides .. No.	47,031	70,279	18,718	22,138
Ivory ..	1,258	110	54	17
Palm-kernels .. tons	546	495	9,026	7,815
Rubber .. lbs.	12,995	3,548	1,027	102
Wax .. lbs.	31,518	1,513	990	473

25. *Increases.*—The only increase was in hides, all of which went to the United Kingdom with the exception of a small number—280—exported to France. The increase in ground-nuts is in value only.

26. *Decreases.*—The decreases under all heads, with the one exception of palm-kernels, are partly due to the war. They would have been greater had hostilities broken out at the beginning of the year when the greater part of the exports are shipped.

27. The condition of the ground-nut and palm-kernel trade during the last five years is shown in the following :—

RETURN SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF GROUND-NUTS AND PALM-KERNELS EXPORTED DURING THE YEARS 1910 TO 1914.

Article.		1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Ground-nuts	Weight. Tons.	58,456	47,931	64,169	67,404	66,885
	Value. £	387,943	437,472	502,069	622,098	650,461
Palm-kernels	Weight. Tons.	467	444	445	546	495
	Value. £	5,640	4,758	6,518	9,026	7,815

28. The percentages of exports, excluding specie, in 1913 and 1914 were :—

		1913.	1914.
Great Britain and British Possessions	..	6·72	9·92
France and French Possessions	.. ..	59·10	79·34
Holland	.. ..	6·03	—
Germany	.. ..	24·56	6·80
Other Countries	.. ..	3·59	3·94

29. *Agriculture.*—The ground-nut continues to be the only article actively cultivated for exportation; there are no indications of any other crop being adopted in the Gambia to rival it.

30. The policy of supplying nuts for seed through the Government was continued.

31. Among other crops grown by native farmers are rice and koos, or millet. The quantities raised are not sufficient for local requirements, rice in considerable quantities has to be imported.

32. Land is granted in small areas. Leaseholds may be acquired. The rent for small lots suitable for trading stations ranges from about three pounds upwards. Freehold interests in Crown lands are not granted save in exceptional circumstances. No leases are issued in the first instance for more than twenty-one years.

33. *Shipping.*—The total number of vessels entered and cleared during the year was 520 with a total tonnage of 571,940 tons as compared with 583 and 625,132 tons in 1913.

34. The following returns give the

TONNAGE OF BRITISH AND FOREIGN VESSELS (a) ENTERED AND (b) CLEARED IN THE YEARS 1913 AND 1914.

(a) Tonnage of Vessels Entered.

Nationality.	1913.			1914.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British ..	185,522	264	185,786	181,871	220	182,091
Foreign ..	123,694	3,311	127,005	100,616	2,523	103,139
TOTAL ..	309,216	3,575	312,791	282,487	2,743	285,230

(b) Tonnage of Vessels Cleared.

Nationality.	1913.			1914.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British ..	185,399	234	185,633	184,076	229	184,305
Foreign ..	123,521	3,187	126,708	99,666	2,739	102,405
TOTAL ..	308,920	3,421	312,341	283,742	2,968	286,710

Total Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared.

British ..	370,921	498	371,419	365,947	449	366,396
Foreign ..	247,215	6,498	253,713	200,282	5,262	205,544
TOTAL ..	618,136	6,996	625,132	566,229	5,711	571,940

Of the total number of vessels entered and cleared at Bathurst during the year, 223 were British (40 sailing and 183 steam) and 297 foreign (88 sailing and 209 steam). The aggregate tonnage of British vessels was 160,852 tons more than that of foreign vessels. The excess in 1913 was 117,706 tons.

35. The following is a

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION, TONNAGE, AND NATIONALITY OF ALL VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED DURING 1913 AND 1914.

Nationality of Vessels.	1913.			1914.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British ..	370,921	498	371,419	365,947	449	366,396
French ..	74,495	1,775	76,270	70,222	1,161	71,383
German ..	60,626	—	60,626	48,176	—	48,176
Russian ..	—	—	—	12,470	—	12,470
American ..	—	428	428	—	755	755
Norwegian ..	20,426	—	20,426	22,008	—	22,008
Portuguese ..	—	4,295	4,295	—	3,346	3,346
Danish ..	24,040	—	24,040	12,474	—	12,474
Swedish ..	11,740	—	11,740	10,762	—	10,762
Greek ..	33,278	—	33,278	22,322	—	22,322
Dutch ..	—	—	—	22	—	22
Spanish ..	2,736	—	2,736	—	—	—
Italian ..	18,460	—	18,460	1,816	—	1,816
Uruguayan ..	1,414	—	1,414	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	618,136	6,996	625,132	566,219	5,711	571,940

36. A comparative statement showing the total quantity and value of, and revenue collected on, spirits during the last five years, is given in Appendix A.*

III.—LEGISLATION.

37. Sixteen Ordinances were passed during the year. The most important of these were :—

No. 6.—An Ordinance to Regulate Copyright.

No. 9.—An Ordinance to amend the law in relation to Perjury.

No. 11.—An Ordinance Further to Amend the Wild Animals, Birds, and Fish Preservation Ordinance 1901.

No. 12.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Construction and Interpretation of Ordinances and Notices, and to the proving thereof in evidence and to other like matters.

No. 16.—An Ordinance to prohibit Trading with the Enemy.

* p. 20.

IV.—EDUCATION.

Schools.

The Anglican school was founded by the Government in the early days of the settlement, and is maintained by the Church of England congregation. Others have been established by the Mohammedans, by the Roman Catholic and by the Wesleyan Missionary Societies. Each of these denominational schools is under a European superintendent. The Government does not maintain any schools, but contributes £150 per annum towards the salary of each superintendent. A grant is also made towards the salaries of the teachers in the Mohammedan School and the provision of prizes therein. Further Grants-in-aid are provided under the Education Ordinance and based on the average attendance of pupils and on the results of examinations held by the Government Inspector of Schools.

39. In Bathurst there are five affiliated schools, the Roman Catholic and Wesleyan bodies having two each, one for boys and one for girls, and the Anglican Church one. The numbers of pupils on the registers during 1914 were :—

Schools.	No.
Roman Catholic	413
Wesleyan	681
Anglican	215

There is another school belonging to the Wesleyan denomination, at MacCarthy Island, which had 100 pupils on the register.

40. The only secondary and technical education is provided by the Wesleyan Church, which has a non-affiliated secondary school and a technical and industrial school for boys in Bathurst. The latter school is in receipt of an annual grant of £300 from the Government and is examined once a year by a Government nominee.

41. The Mohammedan School, which had 100 pupils on the roll during the year, is managed by a Board of leading Mohammedans and is presided over by the Inspector of Schools. Elementary subjects in English and Arabic are taught and the Koran is studied. Thirty-four pupils were presented for examination during 1914 of whom only nine passed.

42. The total number of children attending the schools during the year was 1,512, as compared with 1,295 in 1913. The increase is due to the decline in trade, due to the war and consequent return to Bathurst of traders and trading clerks who would otherwise be with their families at small trading stations where there are no schools.

43. The subject of Elementary Hygiene and Sanitation is compulsory in Standards VI and VII of the schools. One pound and five shillings was provided by the Government for prizes to teachers who were successful in obtaining hygiene certificates.

44. The income of the affiliated schools during the year was £1,580 6s. 3d., as compared with £1,615 14s. 6d. in 1913. This income is derived from school fees, contributions by owners, and Government grants. The expenditure on buildings, repairs, school materials, salaries, and miscellaneous expenses equalled the revenue.

Industrial and Technical School.

45. This school, which is situated in Bathurst, had seventeen pupils on its books during the year; of these two were in the last year of their apprenticeship. The work includes masonry, carpentry and joinery, painting, glazing, and general blacksmithing. The school is a Wesleyan institution, but all the pupils do not belong to that denomination. The institution does useful work and deserves every support.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

46. There are two hospitals, one at Bathurst and one at MacCarthy Island. In the former there is accommodation for four first-class, eleven second-class, and ten third-class male patients. The ward for females has accommodation for seventeen patients, including two cots for children. Four rooms are provided for cases requiring isolation. The wards for males and females are in separate buildings.

47. A European medical officer is usually stationed at MacCarthy Island from October to June; during the remainder of the year, when there is only a small population on the island, a native dispenser is in charge of the hospital. There is one ward for Europeans and three wards for native patients. Fifty-one in-patients and 1,323 out-patients were treated during the year.

48. There is a building for contagious diseases about two miles from Bathurst.. The Colony was free from any epidemic during the year. Smallpox appeared in some parts of the Colony and Protectorate.

49. The medical staff consists of a Senior Medical Officer and five other Medical Officers, one of whom is Medical Officer of Health at Bathurst. These are all members of the West African Medical Staff.

50. In addition to the Medical Officers the hospital staff includes four trained nurses (Europeans) and a number of native dispensers, dressers, and nurses.

51. During the year 556, compared with 554 in 1913, in-patients were treated in the Bathurst hospital. There were 55 deaths, of which one only was that of a European. Of these deaths 10 and 8 were due to diseases of the digestive and respiratory systems respectively. The total number of out-patients treated was 9,799, compared with 8,134 in 1913.

Home for Destitute and Afflicted Persons.

52. Fourteen males and five females were admitted to this institution during the year. The home also serves as a hospital for such cases as the Senior Medical Officer may consider would be more comfortably attended to than in the General Hospital.

Government Savings Bank.

53. At the end of the year there were 561 accounts, as against 501 in 1913, 470 in 1912, 456 in 1911, and 428 in 1910, in this institution, which is under the Receiver General. The balance remaining on deposit was £5,464 0s. 11d., as compared with £5,553 10s. 7d. in 1913. The balances at the end of the years 1912, 1911, and 1910 were £5,267 11s. 6d., £5,037 6s. 7d., and £5,261 15s. 10d., respectively. During the year the sum of £3,014 4s. 4d. was deposited, while £3,231 1s. 11d. was withdrawn. The interest payable was £129 1s. 1d.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

54. The Police Force consists of one Superintendent of Police, an Assistant Superintendent, both of whom are Europeans, and 88 non-commissioned officers and men.

One non-commissioned officer and six men are stationed in the Protectorate.

55. There were 133 prosecutions by the police during the year as against 175 in 1913.

Prisons.

56. There were 40 convicted prisoners remaining in Bathurst Gaol on the 1st January, 1914, and 124 were admitted during the year; 110 were discharged on, and 17 before, the expiration of their sentences. Five sentences were remitted. One prisoner escaped from lawful custody. On the 31st December, 31 prisoners remained in gaol. The 17 prisoners discharged before the expiration of their sentences were sentenced to imprisonment in default of payment of fines and debts. In each case full settlement was made before the prisoners were discharged. Two prisoners who bore exemplary characters while in gaol were released on licence. One prisoner who was sentenced to death had his sentence commuted to one of 10 years' imprisonment with hard labour.

57. The health of the prisoners remained satisfactory throughout the year. There was not a death among the prisoners.

58. The daily average number of prisoners during the last five years was as follows :—

1910	..	..	..	..	..	..	23·78
1911	..	..	..	..	..	..	26·24
1912	..	..	..	..	..	..	27·50
1913	..	..	..	..	..	..	35·74
1914	..	..	..	..	..	..	29·79

Criminal Statistics.

59. There were 27 cases tried in the Supreme Court as compared with 19 in 1913. Among the cases tried two were for murder, which resulted in a conviction for manslaughter in one case and murder in the other. In one charge of manslaughter a conviction was recorded. These and two other charges, one of returning within limits from which an order of banishment was issued and another of cattle stealing, all arose within the Protectorate.

60. Cases arising in the Colony and dealt with by the Court, included 13 charges of burglary and larceny, in which there were eight convictions, and one charge of demanding money with menaces. Four persons were charged with other offences against property, two convictions being recorded, and four persons, of whom three were convicted, were charged with miscellaneous offences.

The Colony and Protectorate continue to be somewhat remarkable for the small number of serious crimes committed.

61. In the Police Court 459 cases were disposed of. This is a small increase of two over the year 1913. A large number of these cases related to summonses taken out by the Board of Health under the Public Health Ordinance of 1912.

62. The total number of cases reported from the Protectorate was 267, which is a decrease of 332 on the previous year. This is accounted for by the returns for 1914 being incomplete as regards one province. There is an absence of cases of ordinary crimes coming before the native tribunals in the Protectorate.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

63. The last census of the Colony and Protectorate (1911) gave the former a population of 7,700 and the latter one of 138,401, a total number of 146,101 inhabitants. This has been increased by an annual influx of "strange farmers."

64. The numbers of births and deaths registered in each of those parts of the Colony to which the system of registration applies, together with the total number therein for the year, are shown in the following tables :—

Births—1914.

District.	Males.				Females.				Totals
	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	
Bathurst	—	130	1	4	—	135	3	1	274
British	—	7	—	—	—	2	—	—	9
Kombo	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	4
Ceded	—	9	—	—	—	10	—	—	19
Mile									
MacCar- thy Island									
Total ..	—	148	1	4	—	149	3	1	306

Deaths—1914.

District.	Males.				Females.				Totals
	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	
Bathurst	1	173	2	4	—	115	1	1	297
British	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	8
Kombo	—	7	—	—	—	6	—	—	13
Ceded	—	8	—	—	—	6	—	—	14
Mile									
MacCar- thy Island									
Total ..	1	192	2	4	—	131	1	1	332

65. The following is a

COMPARATIVE RETURN SHOWING THE BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTERED IN BATHURST, BRITISH KOMBO, THE CEDED MILE, AND MACCARTHY ISLAND DURING THE FIVE YEARS 1910–1914.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of Deaths over Births.	Excess of Births over Deaths.
1910	363	385	22	—
1911	306	318	12	—
1912	303	336	33	—
1913	292	335	43	—
1914	306	342	36	—

66. The death-rate in the Colony showed an increase, being 26·14 per 1,000 as against 21·42 in 1913. The increase may be attributed to the increased rainfall, which was double that of 1913, when the death-rate was the lowest recorded during the last ten years.

67. The number of Europeans, including females, residing in the Colony and Protectorate during the year was 149 including 56 officials. Eight Europeans including two officials were invalided to Europe. No European official died during the year.

68. Twenty-six marriages were registered during the year 1914. The number is the same as that for 1913, as against twenty in each of the two preceding years. Eight marriage licences were issued in 1914, as compared with ten in 1913, three in 1912, and eight in 1911.

69. There were 1,267 vaccinations performed at Bathurst and 921 in the Protectorate during the year.

70. The sanitation of Bathurst is attended to by the Board of Health, of which the Senior Medical Officer is chairman, and the Colonial Engineer and Superintendent of Police are ex-officio members. Six other members are appointed annually by the Governor. The valuable services of Dr. Kennan as Senior Sanitary Officer, which were shared with the Colony of Sierra Leone, were severed during the year as that officer, who did much to promote the sanitation of Bathurst, is now required to devote the whole of his attention to Sierra Leone. The officials of the Board of Health consist of a Town Warden, an Assistant Town Warden, an Inspector and four Assistant Inspectors of Nuisances, a Market Clerk, a Cemetery Keeper, a Groom, four Lamplighters and 40 labourers. The latter are increased to 60 during the rainy season.

71. In the Protectorate sanitation is attended to as far as possible by the Travelling Commissioners, who are guided by special Sanitary Instructions. Prizes are given to the cleanest village in each Province.

Climate.

72. During the rainy season, June to October, the climate of the Gambia is damp and oppressive and is more generally felt than in other places with heavier rainfalls owing to the difference to be found during the remaining months of the year, which comprise the dry season.

73. A Meteorological Station of the second class is maintained in Bathurst. The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 101°, and the lowest 53°. The rainfall was 48·91 inches.

The following are
**METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS FOR BATHURST AND MACCARTHY ISLAND
 RESPECTIVELY.**

Bathurst.

Month.	Temperature.					Rainfall.	Wind.
	Mini- mum on Grass.	Shade maxi- mum.	Shade mini- mum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in inches.	General Directions.
January .	—	90	60	30	75.0	—	North-west.
February.	—	93	60	33	76.5	—	"
March ..	—	101	60	41	80.5	—	"
April ..	—	100	60	40	80.0	—	"
May ..	—	95	62	33	78.5	—	Variable.
June ..	—	99	64	35	81.5	2.98	"
July ..	—	90	68	22	79.0	3.76	"
August ..	—	87	63	24	75.0	27.86	North-west.
September	—	90	63	27	76.5	11.34	"
October ..	—	95	66	29	80.5	2.59	"
November	—	90	60	30	75.0	.38	"
December	—	86	53	33	69.5	—	"
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	48.91	
Average	—	93.0	61.5	31.4	77.2	—	—

MacCarthy Island.

Month.	Temperature.					Rainfall.	Wind.
	Mini- mum on Grass.	Shade maxi- mum.	Shade mini- mum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in inches.	General Directions.
January .	—	98	60	38	79.0	0.30	North.
February.	—	105	65	40	85.0	—	"
March ..	—	109	67	42	88.0	—	"
April ..	—	113	70	43	91.5	—	"
May ..	—	114	68	46	91.0	—	"
June ..	—	109	—	—	—	2.62	"
July ..	—	102	—	—	—	3.09	"
August ..	—	96	—	—	—	14.23	"
September	—	96	—	—	—	7.39	"
October ..	—	99	—	—	—	2.01	"
November	—	102	55	47	78.5	0.80	"
December.	—	98	50	48	74.0	—	"
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	30.44	—
Average	—	103.5	62.1	43.4	83.8	—	—

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Postal.

74. The fortnightly mail service between Liverpool and Bathurst improved as regards the outward mails. The homeward continued to be irregular, sixteen steamers, out of a total of twenty-one, being behind time. Additional mails are occasionally forwarded to England via Dakar, and to a few Continental ports by trading steamers.

75. Internal communication is maintained by a Government steamer and by vessels and launches belonging to the principal trading firms, which carry passengers and freight. During the trading season communication is frequent.

76. During the year a petition was received praying that the number of post offices, of which there are two, established at Bathurst and MacCarthy Island respectively, be increased. The matter was under consideration, but the outbreak of the war and the resultant decrease of revenue prevented any extension of postal facilities.

77. The following general return shows the volume of business transacted during the last five years :—

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Total Number of Letters Parcels, &c., dealt with.	Total Value of Money and Postal Orders issued and paid.
	£	£		£
1910	1,624	864	124,835	6,053
1911	1,811	818	128,265	14,386
1912	*4,624	995	135,269	16,211
1913	1,715	844	157,324	20,947
1914	1,376	754	129,951	19,732

* New issue of Postage stamps.

The falling off in revenue was chiefly due to the falling off in the sale of stamps, which realized £761 9s. 0d. during the first half of the year, as against £281 4s. 10d. during the second half, to dealers abroad.

78. The "Cash on Delivery" service is provided for.

Telegraph and Telephone Services.

79. The only telegraph station in the Colony is one belonging to the African Direct Telegraph Company, Limited, in Bathurst. The ordinary rate to the United Kingdom is three shillings and twopence per word. Deferred cables, at half rate, may be despatched.

80. There is no inland telegraph. Most Government Offices, some official quarters, the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, and Government House at Cape St. Mary are connected by telephone.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

81. No public works of importance were completed during the year. The construction of Denton Bridge, at Oyster Creek, was proceeded with, as was the scheme for providing Bathurst with a pipe-borne water supply from Lamin. The survey of the River Gambia was discontinued. The sanitation of Bathurst was improved by the continued vigilance of the Board of Health.

82. The principal events during the year were the departure early in the year of Sir Henry Galway, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., on promotion to the Governorship of South Australia, and the arrival of his successor, E. J. Cameron, Esquire, C.M.G. Sir Henry Galway's departure was viewed with regret by the community.

W. T. CAMPBELL,

Colonial Secretary.

Bathurst, Gambia.
14th April, 1915

APPENDIX A.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING THE TOTAL QUALITY AND VALUE OF,
AND REVENUE COLLECTED ON, SPIRITS DURING THE YEARS 1910 TO 1914.

Year.	Quantity in *gallons.	Imports in gallons at 100° Trailes.	De- clared value.	Revenue derived from Duties.	Duty chargeable.	Explanation.
1910	48,506	—	£ 7,129	£ 8,183	From 24th April 1908, 4s. 2d. the imperial gallon, or part thereof, upon spirits except perfumes of or under standard strength, of greater strength, 1d. per degree. Provided in the case of spirit other than Whisky and Brandy under standard strength, an abatement shall be allowed at the rate of 1d. for every de- gree of strength be- low 50 degrees down to a minimum of 30 degrees, after which no further abatement shall be allowed.	Value of Spi- rit Imports amounted to 1·23 per cent. of whole in- ward trade including specie.
1911	62,727	—	8,512	10,518	Do.	Value of Spi- rit Imports amounted to 1·05 per cent. of whole in- ward trade including specie.
1912	72,158	—	10,960	11,887	Do.	Value of Spi- rit Imports amounted to 1·44 per cent. of whole in- ward trade including specie.
1913	114,279	—	17,064	18,131	Do.	Value of Spi- rit Imports amounted to 1·56 per cent. of whole in- ward trade including specie.
1914	26,780	11,471	4,991	4,823	Do	Value of Spi- rit Imports amounted to 0·72 per cent. of whole in- ward trade including specie.

* The quantity shown is that actually taken into consumption in each year.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE GAMBIA BLUE-BOOK REPORT 1914.

WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE FOR THE COLONY OF THE GAMBIA DURING 1914.

Economic Investigations.

No samples of economic products were received for examination from the Gambia in 1914. During the year, however, the Technical Information Bureau of the Imperial Institute took action with a view to finding fresh markets for certain products from British West Africa, the disposal of which had been interfered with by the outbreak of the war, and two of the products dealt with, viz., ground-nuts and palm-kernels, are largely represented in the export trade of the Gambia.

In view of their commercial importance in West Africa generally, palm-kernels were first dealt with. Hitherto these kernels had been chiefly exported from British West Africa to Germany, there to be worked up into oil and feeding-cake, and large quantities of the oil were subsequently shipped to England. There was, however, no reason why this industry should not be transferred to such great oil-seed crushing centres as Hull and Liverpool, and the question was brought to the notice of British firms by the publication of full information on the subject in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute" (Nos. 3 and 4 of 1914) and by the issue of a circular to oil-seed crushers. As a result the kernels are now being treated on a large scale by oil-seed crushers in the United Kingdom, and a future market for them, independent of Germany, appears to be assured.

Similar action was also taken by the Bureau with reference to ground-nuts, which form the chief export from the Gambia. A circular on "New Markets for Indian and Colonial Ground-Nuts and their Products," for distribution to oil-seed crushers, was in preparation at the close of the year.

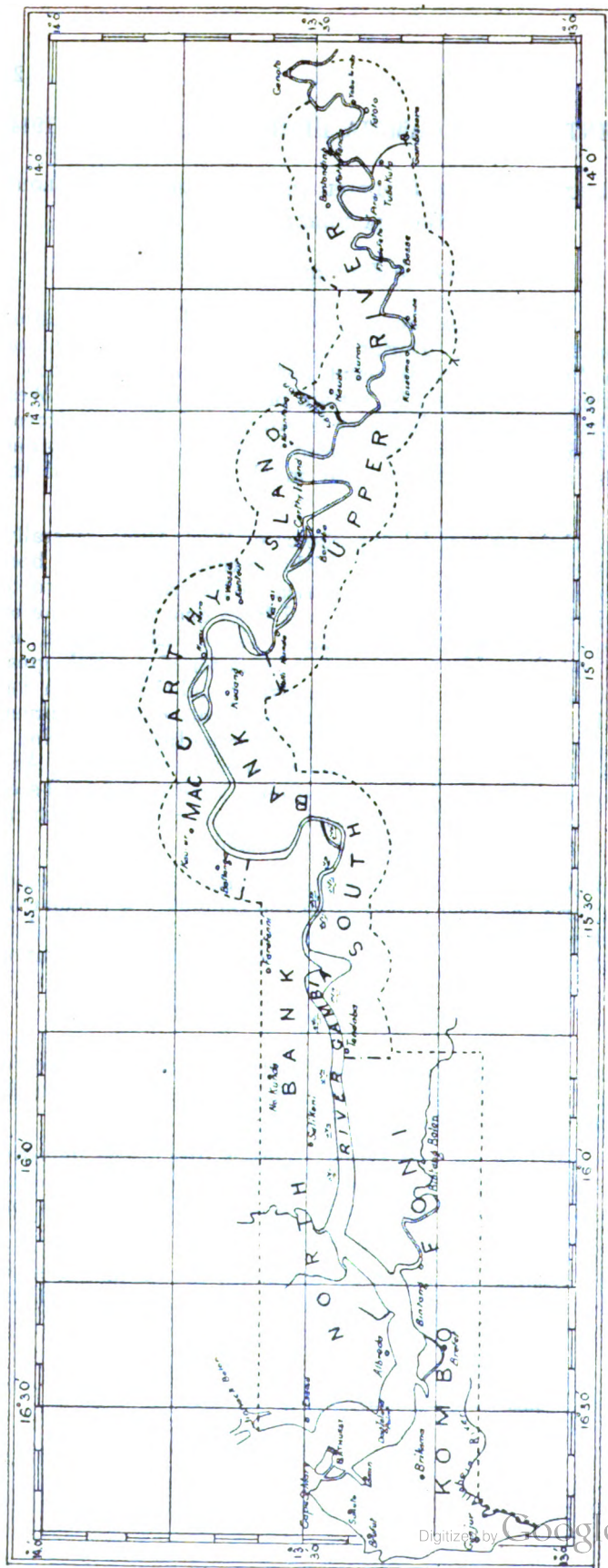
Gambia Court.

The Gambia is represented in the Public Exhibition Galleries of the Imperial Institute by a Court containing exhibits illustrating the resources, products, and industries of the country.

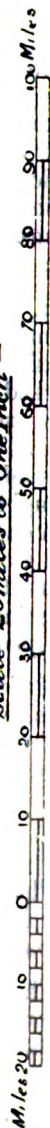
The Court received no new exhibits during 1914. The improvements carried out in the neighbouring West African Courts necessitated certain rearrangements of the Gambia exhibits. Small stands and other fittings have been added and labels printed.

An official lecturer has recently been appointed to deliver short lectures on the countries of the Empire and their resources, these lectures being followed by visits to the courts in the galleries.

GAMBIA.



Scale 20 miles to One Inch -



Reference
Anglo-French Boundary shown
Provinces

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
826	Mauritius	1913
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913-1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	1914
859	Gold Coast	"
860	Jamaica	1914-1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON.
PRINTED BY THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.
1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 862.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913, see No. 838.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1915.



LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or

E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;

or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of

T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

PRINTED IN SINGAPORE.

1915.

[Cd. 7622-53.] Price 3d.

(C213) Wt. 36076/850. 1125 & 90. 10.15. B. & F. Ltd. Gp. 11/2.

CONTENTS.

	Page.
FINANCIAL	1
PUBLIC DEBT	4
EXCHANGE	5
CURRENCY	5
TRADE	6
BANKRUPTCY	10
AGRICULTURE	11
LAND	13
ALIENATION OF LAND	14
THE REGISTRATION OF DEEDS	15
RAFFLES MUSEUM AND LIBRARY	15
SHIPPING.. .. .	15
LEGISLATION	18
EDUCATION	19
SUPREME COURT, SINGAPORE	19
POLICE	20
CRIME	20
PRISONS	21
VITAL STATISTICS	21
IMMIGRATION	22
METEOROLOGICAL	24
POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT	25
GOVERNMENT MONOPOLIES	25
MUNICIPALITIES	26
RURAL BOARDS	27
LAGOON, WET DOCK, AND MAIN WHARF RECONSTRUCTION (TANJONG PAGAR)	27
SINGAPORE HARBOUR WORKS	28
PUBLIC WORKS	29
CHRISTMAS ISLAND	29
GENERAL	30

REPORT ON THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1914.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year 1914 amounted to \$14,016,882, (exceeding the estimate by \$3,672,652), whilst the expenditure was \$10,180,189 (which is less than the estimate by \$972,669).

The actual figures for 1913 and 1914 are shown in the following statements:—

A.—REVENUE.

	1913.	1914.	Increase.	Decrease.
	—	—	—	—
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. Port, Harbour, Wharf and Light Dues ...	133,544	37,139	...	96,405 (a)
2. Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified ...	9,487,388	11,312,250	1,824,862 (b)	...
3. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid ...	631,915	632,973	1,058	...
4. Posts and Telegraphs ...	748,803	698,068	...	50,735
5. Rents of Govt. Property ...	639,142	646,309	7,167	...
6. Interest ...	444,852	409,079	...	35,773
7. Miscellaneous Receipts ...	115,679	115,521	...	158
	\$12,201,323	13,851,339	1,833,087	183,071
8. Land Sales ...	196,424	165,543	...	30,881
TOTAL ...	\$12,397,747	14,016,882	1,833,087	213,952
		Net increase	...	\$1,619,135

(a) Due to the Government Wharves, Penang, having been placed under the Penang Wharves Committee on 1st July, 1913.

(b) Net revenue from opium increased owing to less purchases of opium at less cost during 1914, chandu consumption decreased.

B.—EXPENDITURE.

	1913.	1914.	Increase.	Decrease.
	—	—	—	—
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. Charge on account of the Public Debt ...	90,550	...	...	90,550
2. Pensions ...	442,114	488,391	46,277	...
3. Charitable Allowances ...	10,390	12,175	1,785	...
4. The Governor ...	87,175	84,757	...	2,418
5. Colonial Secretary, Resident Councillor and Residents ...	147,113	150,263	3,150	...
6. Government Printing Office ...	83,895	72,531	...	11,364
7. Land and District Offices	232,237	236,591	4,354	...
8. Forests ...	30,208	29,618	...	590
9. Chinese and Indian Immigrants' Protection	82,730	74,012	...	8,718
10. Treasury ...	95,613	99,348	3,735	...
11. Audit ...	49,872	47,694	...	2,178
12. Marine ...	376,974	379,017	2,043	...
13. Legal ...	389,616	371,830	...	17,786
14. Police ...	911,316	927,873	16,557	...
15. Prisons ...	238,380	230,357	...	8,023
16. Medical ...	252,370	250,008	...	2,362
17. Hospitals and Dispensaries ...	365,746	459,972	94,226	...
18. Veterinary ...	...	31,058	31,058	...
19. Education ...	304,879	286,872	...	18,007
20. Ecclesiastical ...	19,583	18,070	...	1,513
21. Transport ...	24,328	22,007	...	2,321
22. Military Expenditure ...	2,657,836	2,320,473	...	337,363
23. Miscellaneous Services ...	965,103	863,659	...	101,444
24. Post Office ...	596,531	672,521	75,990	...
25. Government Monopolies	391,865	357,029	...	34,836
26. Botanical Gardens and Museum ...	52,461	54,779	2,318	...
27. Public Works Department	321,532	327,963	6,431	...
28. Public Works, Recurrent	217,615	254,244	36,629	...
29. Public Works, Extraordinary ...	1,030,586	926,077	...	104,509
War Expenditure ...	...	131,000	131,000	...
TOTAL ...	\$10,468,618	10,180,189	455,553	743,982

Net decrease ... \$288,429

The expenditure upon personal emoluments (\$3,733,124) and "other charges" (\$2,292,696) shows an increase upon personal emoluments and a decrease under other charges for the preceding year when the figures were \$3,612,435 and \$2,382,763 respectively.

The following statement shows how both the revenue and the expenditure of the Colony have increased in the last five years :—

		<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
		—	—
		\$	\$
1910	...	9,336,328	7,532,242
1911	...	11,409,221	9,085,389
1912	...	12,912,577	9,295,102
1913	...	12,397,747	10,468,618
1914	...	14,016,882	10,180,189

The Assets and Liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December, 1914, were as follows:—

<i>Liabilities.</i>			<i>Assets.</i>		
		\$			\$
Deposits	...	2,567,892	Indian Agency Account	...	118,742
Suspense	...	340,289	Investments	...	4,854,729
Drafts and Remittances	...	107,362	Advances	...	262,174
Cash in Transit	...	711	Loans to Municipalities	...	304,060
Excess of Assets over			Loan to Sultan of Trengganu		50,000
Liabilities	...	16,646,443	Loan to Kelantan Govt.	...	120,000
			Imprests	...	13,594
			Loan Account	...	8,575,888
			Cash	...	5,363,510
TOTAL	...	\$19,662,697	TOTAL	...	\$19,662,697

The excess of the assets of the Colony over its liabilities increased during the year by \$3,836,694.

The principal excesses of revenue over the Estimates were in respect of Opium Revenue (\$3,545,203.97), Liquors (\$165,244.35), Interest (\$33,804.04), Premia on Grants (\$94,092.82), and Land Rents (\$11,749.99). The principal excesses of expenditure were upon Military Expenditure (\$310,607) and Miscellaneous Services (\$174,109). The principal savings were in respect of Public Works Extraordinary \$1,115,357 and Government Monopolies \$114,599.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The indebtedness of the Colony is in respect of the loan raised by the issue of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent Straits Settlements Inscribed Stock under the provisions of Ordinance IV of 1907, and its amount on the 31st December, 1914, was £6,913,352, of which the equivalent in local currency is \$59,257,302.

The expenditure upon the services in respect of which the loan was raised stands as follows:—

		\$
Singapore Harbour Board	...	47,397,273
Penang Harbour Board	...	2,628,098
Municipal Commissioners, Singapore		4,484,460
Municipal Commissioners, Penang	...	1,250,000
Government Harbour Works	...	13,392,804
		<hr/>
		69,152,635
Expenses of issue less interest received		3,388,199
		<hr/>
Total	...	\$72,540,834 *
		<hr/>

The charge on account of interest on the public debt was \$2,073,980 in 1914. This charge is, however, borne by the Singapore Harbour Board and other bodies to whom portions of the loan have been allotted.

* Practically all the balance over and above the proceeds of loans already issued has been advanced by the Colony pending a further issue.

EXCHANGE.

The demand rate (Bank opening rates only) ranged during the year between $2/4\frac{1}{8}$ and $2/3\frac{3}{4}$. The latter quotation, however, was a purely nominal quotation in the earlier days of August. From January 1st to July 30th the rates ranged between $2/4\frac{1}{8}$ and $2/3\frac{3}{4}$ and exchange in its fluctuations followed the previous year throughout that period but was steadily lower than on the corresponding days of 1913. On the 31st July opening rates dropped to $2/3\frac{3}{4}$ for demand drafts but $2/3\frac{1}{2}$ was obtainable. August was a month of nominal quotations with $2/4\frac{1}{8}$ as the highest rate and $2/3\frac{3}{4}$ as the lowest. From September onwards demand rates varied between $2/4\frac{1}{8}$ and $2/4\frac{1}{16}$.

CURRENCY.

The currency of the Colony in circulation, exclusive of subsidiary coins, consisted of \$48,487,648 in Government currency notes, \$198,975 in bank notes issued by the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, and \$6,121,284 in dollars and half-dollars.

The total cost of the investments (including depreciation fund) held by the Currency Commissioners against the Government Currency Notes in circulation on the 31st December, 1914, was \$25,901,348.93 and the market value of those securities calculated at prices obtaining at the end of July, 1914, was \$22,541,812.85. The coin reserve held by the Commissioners amounted to £327,310 in gold and \$12,885,588 in legal tender silver in Singapore and £1,205,376 in London, a total of \$26,022,902.

The total withdrawals from circulation of old subsidiary coin to the end of 1914 amounted to \$3,673,578.50. Coins to the value of \$2,071,353.50 were sent to Bombay to be reminted into new subsidiary coin and \$1,553,000 were sent to the Crown Agents for sale as bullion. The balance \$49,225 remains in the Treasuries in Singapore and Penang pending sale at a favourable price. Reminting of new subsidiary coin has now been completed. The total amount received from the mint up to 31st December was \$2,408,299.85 and the profit on the coinage amounting to \$510,056.45 has been duly credited to the Gold Standard Reserve Fund.

The cancellation and destruction of notes is still in a very backward state. No less than 3,388,719 cancelled notes were in the hands of the Commissioners at the end of the year awaiting sorting, and the various processes connected therewith prior to destruction. The great majority of these notes consisted of one dollar notes and the organization of a considerable staff will be necessary before any reasonable reduction can be expected.

TRADE.

The foreign trade of the Colony in 1914 and 1913 shows in thousands of pounds sterling:—

		1913.	1914.	
		—	—	
		£	£	
<i>Imports—</i>				
Merchandise	...	53,011	43,856	
Treasure	...	2,926	1,804	
		—	—	
Total	...	55,937	45,660	Decrease £10,277
<i>Exports—</i>				
Merchandise	...	43,510	38,032	
Treasure	...	1,865	949	
		—	—	
Total	...	45,375	38,981	Decrease £6,394

The following statement shows the gross trade between the Colony and the United Kingdom, British Possessions and Protectorates, and Foreign Countries, respectively, in thousands of pounds sterling:—

		<i>Imports into Colony.</i>				<i>Exports from Colony.</i>	
		1913.	1914.			1913.	1914.
		—	—			—	—
		£	£			£	£
<i>From</i>				<i>To</i>			
United Kingdom	...	6,175	4,873	United Kingdom	...	10,745	9,981
British Possessions		26,898	21,178	British Possessions		14,117	11,371
Foreign Countries		22,864	19,609	Foreign Countries		20,513	17,629
		—	—			—	—
Total	...	55,937	45,660	Total	...	45,375	38,981

The results on the trade of the Colony of the extraordinary conditions prevailing in 1914 are not brought out fully by these figures. These are necessarily somewhat slow in responding, as trade contracts cannot suddenly be terminated, and as there are difficulties in the way of the immediate cancellation of pending transactions.

The decreased values of merchandise (in comparison with 1914 which like its predecessor may be classed as satisfactory) show over 17 per cent in imports and over 12½ per cent in exports.

The year opened in a period of financial stringency caused by the failure of a large banking institution which affected Chinese firms especially in Singapore and Bangkok. The scarcity of money and the slender reserves of dealers generally, kept the markets depressed, but later there took place a recovery as the weak firms were weeded out, checked however at the outbreak of war when absolute stagnation characterised the market. Produce could not safely be shipped at one time owing to the presence of a marauding enemy cruiser which succeeded in sinking several vessels, among them the s.s. *Troilus* laden with nearly 1,500 tons of valuable Straits cargo. Importers demanded cash for goods while the banks refused advances on produce, and this state of affairs continued for nearly two months.

Prices of produce during the first half-year fell steadily to a point in some cases near producing cost, relieved by two fluctuations of short duration, but towards the third quarter a recovery took place and prices have been maintained somewhat better since. The Singapore prices of the staples of produce indicate a fall averaging $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Every product except hides and copal displayed lower values; and in the cases of tin and Para rubber declines occurred of no less than approximately 26 per cent and 27 per cent respectively.

The volume of Straits produce shipped was about the same as in 1913, increases being apparent in Para rubber, copra, gambier and tin only. The shipments of tin from the Colony reached 66,233 tons, an increase of 483 tons compared with 1913. Of Para rubber 20,107 tons were exported from the Colony. This does not include transhipment cargo not marketed in Singapore, being an increase of 9,700 tons.

Raw cotton fell steadily in price throughout the year and the volume of imports of manufactured cottons was about 30 per cent less. Stocks at the close were generally considerably over the average of corresponding periods in other years, especially in grey goods.

The volume of manufactured metals imported declined by about 30 per cent. Stocks of these, excluding tin plates, and of miscellaneous goods including cement, paints, glass, etc., all show depletion as well as European foods such as milk, biscuits, etc.

The exclusion of Belgian, German and Austrian goods, valued at considerably over £100,000 monthly, had the effect of raising the prices of imported articles identified with these countries and stocks were rapidly cleared. Holland, Italy, America, Japan and the Mother country have to some extent supplied the deficiency. It is to be hoped that British manufacturers will now endeavour to capture and retain a substantial portion of the trade hitherto done by Germany and Austria.

IMPORTS.

Import values of foodstuffs, drinks, and narcotics fell off approximately by nearly 12 per cent, raw materials including tin by 17 per cent, and all manufactured articles by nearly 28 per cent. The decline of nearly £2½ million in foods, drinks and narcotics is accounted for principally by reduced values of opium, rice and grains, sugar, provisions of all kinds, live animals, vegetables and fruits, etc., and liquors. In the raw material class the fall of nearly £3¼ million is accounted for principally by tin and tin ore with a decline of over £3 million followed by coal, hides, raw cotton and silk and oils with smaller deficiencies. Manufactured articles with a fall of £3 million showed the greatest reduction in the import values of cotton and silk piece goods and sarongs, apparel, hosiery, and haberdashery, yarns and thread, manufactured metals generally, motor cars and cycles, paper and stationery, and jute gunnies.

In quantities imported, there was an increase under rice, padi and milk, decreased volume being apparent in opium, sugar, liquors, tobacco, wheat flour, lard, onions and live animals. Tin ore shows much the same import quantity in spite of the fall in price but coal and petroleum fell off. Manufactures declined in the quantity imported of cottons, yarns, silk piece goods, jute gunnies, blankets, bar iron, corrugated iron, nails, steel-plates, tin-plates, cement, matches, and explosives.

EXPORTS.

Export values show a decline in the class foods, drinks, and narcotics of over 11½ per cent or about £1¼ million. Raw materials exported fell off by £3 million. Tin, rattans, phosphates of lime, tanned hides, and shells all showed large reductions. On the other hand gums as a whole and copra gave enhanced values.

Export values of manufactured articles show a falling off of nearly £700,000, textiles contributing £378,000 of this, and metals £111,000.

The quantities of Para rubber, copra, gambier and tin, exported show an increase. A decrease in volume is recorded of sago, tapioca, coffee, black pepper, pineapples, gutta percha, jelutong, hides, rattans and phosphates of lime.

TRADE BY COUNTRIES.

Imports of merchandise from the United Kingdom in 1914 were valued at £4¾ million, a decline of £1½ million or about 24 per cent. Cotton textiles with yarns and thread contributed over £600,000 of the fall, followed by apparel, hosiery and millinery, motor cars and cycles, etc., telegraph and telephone materials,

malt liquors and spirits, hardware and ironware, cement, paper and stationery, steel, machinery, india rubber goods including tyres, provisions, and metals generally, paints, and boots and shoes. The only articles giving important increases are tobacco, with cigars and cigarettes, coal and tramway and railway materials.

Exports of merchandise to the United Kingdom were valued at close on £10 million, a reduction of over £ $\frac{3}{4}$ million or more than 7 per cent. Tin, gutta percha, india rubber, Borneo rubber, sago, shells, and (by smaller amounts) preserved pineapples and gum copal all give reduced values. Increases are, however, seen in Para rubber, copra, peppers, illipi nuts, and gambier exported.

Import values of merchandise from the Continent of Europe reached about £2 $\frac{1}{2}$ million, a fall of over 26 per cent compared with 1913. France, Norway and Russia show advances, but other countries all give declines.

A review of this trade may be interesting at the present time so I subjoin particulars of the value of each country's shipments to the Straits in thousands of pounds :—

	1913.	1914.	Increase.	Decrease.
	—	—	—	—
	£	£	£	£
Austria-Hungary	279	128	...	151
Germany ...	878	415	...	463
Belgium ...	407	218	...	189
Denmark ...	75	47	...	28
Holland ...	363	300	...	63
Italy ...	569	488	...	81
Norway ...	18	76	58	...
Sweden ...	19	12	...	7
France ...	293	451	158	...
Spain ...	25	9	...	16
Russia ...	5	10	5	...
	—	—		
Total ...	2,931	2,154		
	—	—		

The value of the trade in manufactured goods of the two European enemy countries with the Colony has thus decreased by 53 per cent over the whole year, while France seems to have benefited, but included in her trade as well as in that of Italy are large quantities of Swiss goods, especially milk. It is more than probable, however, that Italy and Holland have benefited largely, although this is not to be inferred from the trade returns. German and Austrian goods have always been shipped from Genoa and Holland, and declared here according to the first port of shipment, and the cessation of these to a large extent has to be taken into account.

All the principal articles of import identified with Belgium, Germany and Austria give evidence of the great decline in values. Thus hosiery and undershirts, hardware and cooking utensils, beer, paper and stationery, milk and tinned provisions, crockery and glass, lamps, nails, and numerous sundries all evidence enormous reductions, and falls are also recorded of cement from Denmark, brandy from France, cottons and yarns from Italy, and sarongs, hardware, gin and tobacco from the Netherlands.

Shipments of Swiss milk have been diverted to French ports accounting for nearly £160,000 of the increase from that country, while milk from Genoa exhibits a decline. Scarcely any article shows an increase and none of any importance, except perhaps milk from the Netherlands.

Exports of merchandise to the Continent of Europe are valued over £4½ million, a decrease of nearly 23 per cent. Tin, copra, peppers, and rattans give enormous decreases, followed by tapioca, sago, pines, wolfram ore, gutta percha, gambier, oilcakes, and copal. Increases are apparent in Para rubber and illipi nuts, Germany, Belgium, and France taking more Para rubber and the latter two countries greater values of illipi nuts, while Denmark received larger shipments of copra.

The principal countries showing increased values of goods sent to the Colony are:—French Indo-China and the Non-Federated Malay States of the Malay Peninsula. The following countries give declines in value, viz.:—Australia, British India, Japan, Siam and Siamese States, Dutch Indies, Hongkong and China, British North Borneo and Sarawak, and the Federated Malay States.

BANKRUPTCY.

The failure of the Kwong Yik Bank on the 19th November, 1913, although it was followed by several large and complicated bankruptcies, did not prove as disastrous as was anticipated. Trade, however, continued to be dull and was temporarily suspended by the outbreak of war. By the end of the year trade had shown good recovery; profits were better on a smaller volume of business.

There were 51 trade bankruptcies during the year, and many insolvents made with their creditors arrangements of which eleven were registered.

The Chinese market is said to be in a sound condition.

AGRICULTURE.

During 1914 the prices of the chief Malayan agricultural exports which are shipped west, fell in the world's markets. Rubber, for instance, after repeating the seasonal rise of three out of the last four years, fell again before war broke out to the point from which it had risen; near to which it has since been maintained by the decrease of its import into London, and elsewhere. The actual imports into London during 1914 amounted to less than those of 1913, and the total world's production appears also to have been slightly less; for though the production of plantation rubber has increased enormously, the decrease in output from wild sources has been even greater. Coconut products fell gradually towards the outbreak of war, lost their market when the crisis came, and then after a month began to find it again, the prices varying closely with the freedom of the sea. After the destruction of the German cruiser *Emden* they began to rise in a promising way. Sago and tapioca, low when the year began, went lower like the coconut products, but are now obtaining somewhat better prices. Puteh leaves lost their market entirely when war was declared.

On the other hand gambier, which chiefly goes east, is a little more profitable than it was.

The amount of rubber produced in the Malay Peninsula shows a great increase, in which the Settlements have taken a more or less even part. An area of moderate extent has been newly planted in Singapore island, and a small one in the territory of Malacca. In the first named the rubber growing on the new lands seems to be entirely a subsidiary product for, by the terms under which the land has been let for the growing of pineapples, a permanent crop has to be planted and rubber seems to the occupiers to be best for such a purpose. In the territory of Malacca, the surrender to Government of lands taken up speculatively or unwisely by rubber companies in the boom, has been rather more than was anticipated, and many estates are finding it necessary to use revenue for completing development; but the revenue promises generally to suffice. Great economies have been found possible; the cost of production has been reduced wonderfully; and there are companies producing and marketing at below one shilling per lb.

In the older and Chinese-planted estates of Malacca thinning is being carried out extensively. Ploughing is also being resorted to more and more. Not a few factories are acting as centrals for small neighbouring estates—a procedure which goes

some way towards reducing the variability of the quality of the product. The rubber plantations are very free from disease.

There is now extremely little tapioca associated anywhere with rubber, and the European estates in Province Wellesley which formerly made tapioca have ceased to do so. A little Chinese tapioca-manufacture continues in Malacca.

Coconuts in most places have had a productive year. New land is being planted with them to a small extent in Province Wellesley and in Singapore. The older estates in Province Wellesley, in some cases planted unsatisfactorily, have received a considerable amount of attention, and the trees are said to have responded to manure and cultivation given in 1913.

Pineapples occupy a slightly reduced area in Singapore island in consequence of their removal from under rubber on the larger rubber estates. But this has caused new lands to be planted with them. The price of pineapples in Singapore town fell at the commencement of the war to fifty cents per hundred (which was also its minimum during the excessively large crop of 1913) in consequence of the cessation of work at the canneries. However, the work was soon resumed. It seems that fifty cents per hundred is the minimum price at which picking and carting can be done, the cost of cultivation then being lost.

The success of pineapple-planting in Singapore seems to have stimulated a small increase in the crop on Chinese-owned land in Malacca and Province Wellesley, but without canneries the market is there very limited.

Gambier is being removed from under rubber in Malacca only very slowly. In Singapore island its cultivation persists in three mukims; and so long as the market maintains its present prices and labour is abundant, the crop is unlikely to disappear.

Vegetable growing is extending, especially in Singapore island, in consequence of the freeing of labour from estates. The last season has been favourable to vegetables; and prices on the Singapore markets have been much lower than they were. Chillies are among the special products of 1914. The Chinese who plant vegetables are in Singapore also planting a little indigo.

There is a slight further increase in Singapore of plantain cultivation. Small crops of tuba are by no means uncommon in the east of the island.

Throughout the Settlements the crop of mangosteens and other fruits has been very good.

The rice crop of 1913-14 was in places excellent: that of 1914-15 unfortunately started badly, for rain did not fall when required.

The locust pest in Malacca has done very little damage. The locust is destructive elsewhere under certain conditions; but is not so as yet in the Peninsula. Its favourite foods are certain pasture grasses, maize, etc., which do not play a large part in local agriculture; but it has attacked rice, sugar cane, coconuts and some other economic plants in a small degree. Measures are being taken against it in the hope of preventing it becoming really destructive. These measures are being carried out on the same lines as those undertaken in the Federated Malay States, and are taken in consultation with the Agricultural Department of the States.

LAND.

The revenue collected exclusive of revenue from miscellaneous collections amounted to \$229,137, as compared with \$196,919 in 1913.

The totals under the various sub-heads were as follows:—

—	1914.	1913.	1913 compared with 1914.	
			Excess.	Deficit.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land Revenue ...	135,090	128,395	6,695	...
Reimbursements ...	9,501	9,895	...	394
Land Sales ...	84,546	58,629	25,917	...
	229,137	196,919	Excess. 22,218	

The demand for the temporary occupation of Crown land in the town and vicinity continued and the revenue from this source is now very considerable. In the country districts only 26 applications for Crown lands were received, but at least 1,000 acres were added to the cultivated area of the Settlement. The large estates and the great majority of the smaller holdings were kept in excellent order.

Within Municipal limits the sale of a block of land in Orchard Road was completed and a site for the new gasholder at Kreta Ayer was purchased by the Municipal Commissioners. An area was acquired as a site for a wireless station at Paya Lebar and a small piece of land at Pasir Panjang was acquired for Military purposes.

The debt of Sultan Ali's Estate to the Government was \$2,156.01 as against \$21,381.58 at the end of 1913 and \$38,534.90 at the end of 1912. The revenue collected amounted to \$25,103.44. The estate is therefore in a very flourishing condition and during the year it was decided to double the allowances paid to the family of Sultan Hussain.

Other miscellaneous collections brought the total revenue from all sources to \$400,167.27.

The expenditure of the office amounted to \$24,470.90 as against \$21,799.05 in 1913.

ALIENATION OF LAND.

The area of Crown Land alienated, and the number of Statutory Grants issued during the last five years together with the amount of premia paid in respect of the same, are shown in the following table:—

SINGAPORE.

	1910.			1911.			1912.			1913.			1914.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Area granted ...	4,542	1	30	4,944	3	02	1,275	0	12	1,374	3	01	813	0	24
	sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.		
.. Town Lots	22,956			206,010			59,242			51,517			494,406		
Number of Statutory Grants issued ...	100			127			68			91			137		
Premia paid ...	\$154,506.77			\$148,222.79			\$69,821.25			\$83,734.70			\$156,772		

PENANG.

	1910.			1911.			1912.			1913.			1914.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Area granted ...	4,004	1	06	2,764	0	04	2,962	3	38	928	3	05	6,841	0	02
	sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.		
	76,423			409,787			9,249			21,792			9,960		
Number of Statutory Grants issued ...	129			169			79			98			77		
Premia paid ...	\$16,275.97			\$14,310.19			\$18,567.75			\$31,058.25			\$16,289.50		

MALACCA.

	1910.			1911.			1912.			1913.			1914.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Area granted ...	2,716	0	37	1,789	0	11	6,074	3	27	11,427	3	03	10,379	0	33
	sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.		
.. Town Lots	22,440			43,328			31,762			25,991			3,000		
Number of Statutory Grants issued ...	266			212			465			552			494		
Premia paid ...	\$114,553.50			\$105,485			\$95,631.45			\$104,836.53			\$85,506.30		

THE REGISTRATION OF DEEDS.

The number of deeds presented for registration was 3,944 as compared with 4,125 in 1913 and the number of deeds finally registered 4,172, compared with 4,092 in 1913. The chief items were Conveyances and Assignments (1,959), Mortgages (1,080) and Reconveyances (596).

The total amount of fees collected during the year was \$17,858.75, compared with \$12,717.40 in 1913. This is the highest sum collected in any one year since the land boom in 1903. Many of the deeds presented were of great length and the average fee for registration was considerably higher than that of the previous year. The total also includes some heavy fines for late registrations.

One marked effect of the war on land transactions was that the number of deeds presented for registration decreased by nearly half during the later months of the year.

RAFFLES MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.

The number of works purchased during the year was 587 at a cost of \$2,155.76, as against 609 at a cost of \$1,844.04 in the previous year.

The number of subscribers remains approximately the same as before and was drawn from seventeen distinct nationalities.

In October the Taxidermist, Mr. DE FONTAINE, joined Mr. MOULTON of the Sarawak Museum, in an expedition of exploration into the Kalabit country, Sarawak, and especially the mountain Murud. The expedition was productive chiefly as regards birds, insects and ethnological specimens.

The collection of replicas of the Perak regalia, depleted by burglaries, has been replaced.

In September a large party from the British Association Meeting in Melbourne passed through Singapore and visited the Museum.

SHIPPING.

The total tonnage of merchant vessels arriving and departing was 24,859,917 as compared with 27,124,789 in 1913. Fuller particulars will be found in the appended comparative table.

Statement showing combined Arrivals and Departures of Merchant Vessels for the Years 1913 and 1914.

NATIONALITY.	1913.					1914.				
	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Christmas Island and Labuan.	Total tonnage (Entered and Cleared).	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Christmas Island and Labuan.	Total tonnage (Entered and Cleared).
American	...	...	...	3,446	4,894	...	...	...	...	...
Austrian	1,448	316,308	...	12,103	653,313	190,900	190,664	...	...	381,564
British	324,902	5,978,940	558,438	157,126	15,250,947	8,286,023	5,179,967	523,624	221,566	14,211,180
Chinese	8,556,443	...	...	...	43,838	42,486	...	...	...	42,486
Danish	43,838	...	...	9,504	288,572	172,364	113,254	...	...	285,618
Dutch	163,102	115,966	...	16,260	2,593,855	2,073,743	461,071	...	...	2,534,814
French	2,116,731	460,304	560	...	760,705	663,404	31,164	...	...	694,508
German	760,705	...	...	...	3,397,009	1,410,542	706,094	...	123,974	2,240,610
Italian	2,043,629	1,131,850	...	221,530	97,192	...	...	...	...	...
Japanese	69,550	27,642	...	...	2,590,943	1,948,654	850,709	277,452	9,902	3,086,717
Norwegian	1,881,726	701,999	...	4,218	472,887	548,838	74,918	...	29,488	653,244
Russian	426,253	31,022	...	15,612	495,254	292,014	20,882	...	...	312,896
Sarawak	450,504	44,750	...	...	137,108	101,218	...	...	...	101,218
Siamese	109,948	...	...	27,160	145,676	104,146	...	...	...	104,146
Spanish	123,356	22,320	...	...	119,628	131,018	...	...	...	131,018
Swedish	119,628	...	...	...	72,968	53,800	4,612	...	21,486	79,898
...	63,190	...	...	9,778	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	17,254,953	8,834,101	558,998	476,737	27,124,789	16,019,150	7,633,275	801,076	406,416	24,859,917

From the above table it will be seen that the following countries show an increased tonnage, entered and cleared, in 1914 as compared with 1913 :—

<i>Increase.</i>			
—			
Japan	...	...	495,774
Norway	..	...	180,357
Spain	...	...	11,390
Sweden	...	...	6,930

The following countries show a decrease :—

<i>Decrease.</i>			
—			
Germany	...	...	1,156,399
Britain	...	...	1,039,767
Austria	...	...	271,749
Russia	...	...	182,358
Italy	...	...	97,192
France	...	...	66,197
Holland	...	...	59,041
Siam	...	...	41,530
Sarawak	...	...	35,890
America	...	...	4,894
Denmark	...	...	2,954
China	...	...	1,352

In the last five years the combined arrivals and departures of merchant vessels have been as follows :—

In 1910	...	...	23,561,229 tons.
1911	...	...	24,233,886 „
1912	...	...	25,985,526 „
1913	...	...	27,124,789 „
1914	...	...	24,859,917 „

In the small craft (steamers under 50 tons and native vessels) the combined arrivals and departures were 43,796 in number and 1,714,241 in tons in 1913 as compared with 45,739 and 1,951,044, respectively, in 1914.

Ten new steamers with a tonnage of 630 tons gross and 41 sailing vessels of 4,033 tons were registered during the year under the Imperial Shipping Acts. Under the "Merchant Shipping Ordinance 1910," twenty new sailing vessels of 1,893 tons were licensed under section 425, and 899 vessels of 9,749 tons were under section 426.

LEGISLATION.

During the year 1914 thirty-three Ordinances were passed, fourteen being amending and nineteen principal Ordinances.

Of these three are purely war measures. They deal with the regulation of the press, trading with the enemy, and the compulsory winding up of the business of alien enemies.

Of the remaining principal Ordinances the following are the most important:—

(a) The Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance the object of which is to prevent the sale of any food or drug in an impure or adulterated state. It was passed as the result of a report made by the Municipal Analyst after prolonged examination and analysis to the effect that the adulteration of food and drink in Singapore were widely prevalent.

(b) The Domestic Servants Ordinance which imposes, subject to limitations, compulsory registration on domestic servants of a different nationality from their employers with a view to checking the use of false testimonials and to enable masters to obtain information as to the character of the persons they employ.

(c) The Copyright Ordinance which applies to the Colony the provisions of the Imperial Copyright Act 1911 with regard to importation into a British Possession of copies of works made out of that Possession.

(d) The General Loan and Inscribed Stock Ordinance which lays down the terms and conditions applicable to loans authorized to be raised by the Government of the Straits Settlements and to provide for the creation of inscribed stock.

(e) The Aerial Navigation Ordinance which makes provision for controlling the navigation of aircraft over the Colony.

(f) The Women and Girls' Protection Ordinance which consolidates and amends the previous legislation on this subject. The amendments proceed on the lines of recent legislation at home for the suppression of the white slave traffic.

(g) The Trustee Ordinance consolidates and amends the law relating to trustees and brings it into practical agreement with the Imperial laws on the subject.

(h) The Life Assurance Companies Ordinance which applies the provisions of the Imperial Acts of 1909 and the Indian Act of 1912 to the Life Assurance Companies established in the Colony for the purpose of preventing scandals such as occurred in India a few years ago.

The only amending Ordinances of importance are the Companies Amendment Ordinance which prohibits certain companies from making advances to their own directors or officers except upon trustee securities; and the Labour Contracts Ordinance which marks the end of Chinese contract labour in the Colony.

EDUCATION.

The expenditure on the eight Government English Schools was \$153,658.87, on 34 Aided Schools (English, Anglo-Tamil, Tamil and Chinese) \$152,207, and on the 187 Government Vernacular Schools, \$114,283.54.

The Malacca Training College for Malay Teachers continued to do good work. Its cost, during the year under review, was \$12,177.19.

The numbers in Secondary Classes show a small increase over the figures for 1913.

The Normal Classes continued their work during the year. One Normal Certificate was issued.

SUPREME COURT, SINGAPORE.

The Court of Appeal sat in Singapore from the 15th to 27th June and from the 23rd November to the 1st December.

The Court fees collected amounted to \$36,896.05, as against \$31,458.10 in 1913.

There were 56 cases, in which 71 persons were tried, at the Assizes during the year and in 43 of these cases convictions resulted.

Sir WILLIAM HENRY HYNDMAN-JONES, for the last 8 years the honoured and respected Chief Justice, retired, whilst on leave, in July and was succeeded by Mr. Justice BUCKNILL, formerly Attorney-General of Hongkong.

Mr. Justice EARNSHAW, appointed a Puisne Judge of the Straits Settlements in May, reported his arrival on the 4th November.

The war rendered it necessary for the Prize Court to sit during the latter part of the year, there being six Prize causes, but otherwise it had no marked effect on the work of the Court.

POLICE.

The total strength of the force at the end of the year was 2,620, which was distributed as follows:—

Singapore and Christmas Island	...	1,208
Penang, Province Wellesley and Dindings		993
Malacca	... ..	329
Labuan and Brunei	... ..	90

The authorized strength of the force is 2,736.

Recruiting showed a still further improvement during the year amongst the Malays, due no doubt to the reduction of labour staffs on rubber estates.

The wastage from the force is very heavy, and is far from satisfactory. Though not so heavy as last year it amounted to no less than 355 men (of whom 153 were dismissed, 67 deserted and 47 were pensioned). The number of recruits during the year was 389. A man does not become available for police duties until he has left the recruit stage and emerged in the second class constable stage, a process, which according to his intelligence takes from six to twelve months.

Discipline is improving. The weak spot is in the native non-commissioned officers, who with few exceptions cannot keep to the middle path between laxity and undue severity.

The health of the force was good.

CRIME.

In spite of five months of war the criminal statistics are more or less normal, though increases are shown in the more serious offences against property and the person, as indicated in the returns given below. The returns are murder, 41 (22) reports—the figures in brackets denote the corresponding number in the preceding year—gang robbery 34 (31), robbery 123 (164), house-breaking 475 (545), and theft 2,427 (2,315). It must be remembered that these are returns of reports, of which many are later proved, upon investigation by the police, to be mistaken, imaginary, or false.

The total number of arrests effected in the Colony during the year was 19,022, compared with 19,353 in 1913.

One hundred and nine persons, as against 64 in 1913, were tried before the Supreme Court.

Four hundred and sixteen persons were banished during the year. The great majority were habitual criminals.

PRISONS.

The total number of prisoners in the Criminal Prisons was:—

<i>In Prison 1st Jan., 1914.</i>	<i>Received during 1914.</i>	<i>Discharged, etc., during 1914.</i>	<i>Remaining 31st Dec., 1914.</i>
—	—	—	—
913	5,172	5,065	1,020

The daily average was 944 as compared with 901 in 1913. The decline in numbers which has been so noticeable in recent years would no doubt have continued in 1914, but for the general lack of employment owing to the war. Of the sentences inflicted two-thirds were for periods of less than a month; there were only twenty-one long-sentence prisoners classed as "habitual," *i.e.*, with more than two previous convictions of over two months.

The number of prisoners in the Civil Prisons was:—

<i>1st January, 1914.</i>	<i>Received during 1914.</i>	<i>Discharged, etc., during 1914.</i>	<i>Remaining 31st Dec., 1914.</i>
—	—	—	—
111	5,488	5,411	188

The daily average was 115.

The Prisons in Singapore, Penang and Malacca were used as Houses of Detention for vagrants. Eight hundred and one vagrants were received during the year and 795 discharged, the great majority of whom were repatriated; a common cause of vagrancy was inability to find work.

The health of the prisoners was good. The morphia habit seems, temporarily at any rate, to have been given up by the lower classes of the Colony. The amount realized by the sale of Prison manufactures was \$695.58 and articles worth \$34,031.49 were supplied to Government departments. Total expenditure was \$225,878.58.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of births and deaths registered during the year was 22,080 and 25,880 respectively. The figures for the preceding year were 19,964 and 25,950.

The estimated population of the Colony was 759,067. It was estimated at 743,010 in 1913, and ascertained in 1911 (the year of the Census) to be 711,951.

The birth-rate has increased from 26·87 to 29·09 per mille.

The death-rate has decreased, having fallen from 46·45 in 1911, 39·01 in 1912, and 34·93 in 1913 to 34·09 per mille in the year under review.

The principal causes of death were malaria (3,548 cases), infantile convulsions (4,707), tuberculosis (2,079), beri-beri (1,482), and dysentery (1,186).

Dangerous infectious diseases notified in the Colony during the year caused 36 deaths from small-pox, 282 from cholera and 15 from plague. The corresponding figures in 1913 were 27, 85 and 1.

IMMIGRATION.

(I).—CHINESE.

Immigrants arrived from China to the number of 147,150, a decrease of 38·9 per cent as compared with the figure for 1913 and of 45·4 per cent as compared with that for 1911, the highest yet recorded.

Adult males formed 82 per cent and adult females 9 per cent of the immigrants.

Immigration was prohibited at the beginning of August. The prohibition continued to the end of the year.

The following table shows the total number of Chinese Immigrants during the last five years:—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
—	—	—	—	—	—
1910	184,856	16,395	11,522	3,548	216,321
1911	226,126	22,738	16,033	4,957	269,854
1912	206,018	23,327	16,794	5,505	251,644
1913	197,872	22,847	15,060	5,200	240,979
1914	121,355	13,017	9,710	3,068	147,150

(II).—INDIAN.

The number of immigrants from India during the year was 51,217, falling short of the return for 1913 by 67,366. The large decrease in 1914 is chiefly due to the fact that after 6th August no immigrants from Madras or Negapatam arrived owing to the total suspension of the immigration of deck passengers from these ports.

During the year there was as regards adults an excess of emigrants over immigrants of 12,599 and as regards children an excess of immigrants over emigrants of 743. In 1913 the excess of immigrants over emigrants was 42,892 adults and 5,601 children.

The total number of immigrants that arrived at Penang from Southern India in 1914 was 51,217, as compared with 118,583 in 1913, a decrease of 67,306.

Immigration of deck passengers from Madras and Negapatam was discontinued from the 6th August to the end of the year, but there are indications that in any case the number of immigrants would have been very considerably less than in 1913 owing to a greatly diminished demand for labour on estates.

The figures for arrivals for the last three years are as follows:—

	1912.	1913.	1914.
	—	—	—
Assisted immigrants (<i>i. e.</i> , with passages paid for from the Immigration Fund) ...	79,838	91,236	36,905
Other immigrants ...	27,090	27,347	14,312
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	106,928	118,583	51,217
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The number of Indians leaving the Colony for Southern India was 63,073, *i. e.*, 60,408 adults and 2,665 children, as against 66,695 adults and 3,395 children in 1913.

The excess of emigrants over immigrants was as regards adults 12,599, while as regards children immigrants exceeded emigrants by 743.

Out of 36 steamers that arrived during the period 1st January to 6th August 16 were actually quarantined on arrival (3 for cholera, 2 for small-pox and 11 for plague observation). Quarantine expenses average \$1.38 per head.

The assisted immigrants consisted of 34,247 adults and 2,658 minors. Of the adults 27,991 were men and 6,256 women giving a proportion of approximately 18 per cent of women.

Nine hundred and thirty-seven labourers were recruited through the Government Agency in India, and two thousand one hundred and seventy were independent labourers supplied with free passages on application.

The remaining 31,140 adult assisted immigrants were of a class known as “kangany labourers.”

The figures for 1914 actually represent only the first 7 months of the year, for, owing to the temporary stoppage of immigration, the last steamer carrying immigrants arrived on 6th August.

All the Tamil labour now employed throughout the Colony is free.

The health on estates in Penang, Province Wellesley and the Dindings was very satisfactory, and the death-rate in these districts was not as high as 50 per mille on any place of employment. The health conditions on estates in Malacca were, as usual, not so satisfactory as in the other Settlements.

It is satisfactory to note that no complaints were received during August and September when, owing to special financial circumstances arising from the war, many employers were compelled to make small advances in cash and provisions weekly instead of paying wages in full as they became due.

Tamil schools are maintained on Prye, Batu Kawan and Caledonia Estates. The results of the annual examination conducted by Mr. H. G. R. LEONARD, Deputy Superintendent of Immigrants, proved most satisfactory, each of the schools earning the Government Grant-in-Aid.

Between the 1st January and 6th August 671 decrepit and destitute Indians were repatriated through this department.

The revenue collected by the Immigration Committee during 1914 was \$1,226,824.34 and the cash balance at the end of the year was \$736,994.55. The balance of assets over liabilities amounted to \$893,400. This balance includes an estimated sum of \$60,000 due for assessment for the fourth quarter of the year.

(III).—NETHERLANDS INDIAN.

The number of Netherlands Indian labourers known to be on estates in the Straits Settlements is 3,885.

The number of labourers on contracts of service, usually known as indentured labourers, remaining at the end of the year was 1,580 of whom 2 were in the Dindings, 144 in Malacca and 1,434 in Province Wellesley.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The rainfall recorded was as follows :—

Singapore	...	...	85.84 inches.
Labuan	...	...	82.02 „
Penang	...	...	89.54 „
Province Wellesley	...	...	117.71 „
Malacca	...	...	83.50 „
Dindings	...	...	74.27 „

The mean temperature of the air throughout the year was 83.2°. The maximum recorded was 97.5° in Province Wellesley on February 21st (in Singapore 97° on May 13th). The minimum was 67° in Malacca on August 7th.

POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

The number of postal articles (excluding parcels) posted in the Colony was 8,916,270, an average of 12·48 per inhabitant, as against 12·81 the average in the previous year. The number received for delivery was 6,953,133, as compared with 7,983,199 in 1913. The number of messages transmitted over the Government telegraph lines decreased from 263,274 to 235,776, and the number of subscribers to the Government telephone exchanges from 645 to 642.

The maximum postage on newspapers published locally and posted within seven days of publication or on publications registered as newspapers in the United Kingdom and posted locally to addresses in the Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States or Johore was fixed at two cents.

A Sub-Post Office was opened at Sea View Hotel and a Telegraph Office at Orchard Road.

Week-end telegrams were introduced on 1st July, 1914, but the service was discontinued on the outbreak of war.

The amount at the credit of depositors in the Government Savings Bank on the 31st December, 1914, was \$769,115. The average amount at the credit of each depositor was \$149.98. There was a profit on the year's working of \$5,194.70. The estimated present value of the investments is \$757,961.

The Savings Bank rule regarding the limitation of deposits was modified to admit of depositors, besides depositing \$500 in any year, replacing in whole or in part any one (but not more than one) withdrawal made during the year.

GOVERNMENT MONOPOLIES.

The price of opium varied between \$905 and \$1,165 per chest.

During the year 2,787 chests of opium (Indian and Persian) were cooked at the Factory, and gave a total yield of 3,702,205 tahils of chandu, a decrease of 883,269 tahils compared with the preceding year 1913. The amount sold in the Colony was 1,402,057.4 tahils, the remainder of the production being for outside States.

No alteration was made in the selling price of chandu during the year.

The revenue on liquor and tobacco (the latter in Labuan only) amounted to \$1,611,326.55.

During the year 674 cases were instituted in Singapore for offences against the Chandu and Liquors Ordinances and Deleterious Drugs Ordinances, 199 in Penang, and 48 in Malacca.

Seizures were made of 6,673 tahils of opium, 1,357.7 tahils of chandu, 528,000 grains of cocaine, 100 grains of morphia, 8,906 bundles + 480 tahils of bhang.

MUNICIPALITIES.

The "Municipal Ordinance 1913" effected important changes in the constitution and powers of the Municipal bodies in the Colony. It abolished the elective system, and substituted for it that of appointment by the Governor. It also gave power to the Governor, after a report to, and discussion in, the Legislative Council, to order the Commissioners to carry out any duty, in which they had failed. In addition to what may be described as the ordinary rates, it provided two special rates, one in respect of improvements in insanitary areas, and the other in respect of expenditure upon back-lane schemes. The borrowing powers of the Municipalities have also been revised. As a whole, the Ordinance has greatly improved the law relating to Municipalities.

The revenue of the three Municipalities amounted to \$5,173,274, and their expenditure, excluding sums spent on Loan Works, to \$5,121,288. The usual comparative statements of revenue and expenditure, and of the debts of the Boards, showing the provision made for repayment, appear below.

REVENUE.

		1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
		—	—	—	—	—
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Singapore	...	2,512,507	2,555,478	3,062,526	3,202,551	3,626,243
Penang	...	1,103,587	1,206,244	1,268,267	1,321,766	1,399,639
Malacca	...	76,853	91,828	112,529	134,207	147,392
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	...	\$3,692,947	3,853,550	4,443,322	4,658,524	5,173,274
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

EXPENDITURE.

		1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
		—	—	—	—	—
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Singapore	...	2,446,041	2,527,579	3,197,526	3,498,277	3,679,944
Penang	...	1,116,307	1,150,693	1,255,757	1,306,566	1,295,549
Malacca	...	76,282	90,895	100,247	135,405	145,795
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	...	\$3,638,630	3,769,167	4,553,530	4,940,248	5,121,288
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

RURAL BOARDS.

The following return shows the revenue and expenditure of the Rural Boards, which carry out in areas outside Municipal limits such of the provisions of the Municipal Ordinance as are applicable to country districts :—

		<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
		—	—
		\$ c.	\$ c.
Singapore Island	...	59,241 00	212,811 00
Penang Island	...	61,540 43	91,239 52
Province Wellesley	...	190,364 43	236,792 59
Dindings	...	9,298 00	35,378 00
Malacca	...	225,595 00	354,640 00

The deficit in the revenue of the Rural Boards is made good by contributions from the Government.

LAGOON WET DOCK AND MAIN WHARF RECONSTRUCTION. (TANJONG PAGAR.)

During the year, the progress made by the contractors, Messrs. Topham, Jones & Railton, Limited, was very satisfactory and the construction of the entrance walls and dredging of the entrance was sufficiently advanced by the 2nd of June to enable the Dock to be opened for traffic.

Since that date the Dock has been in regular use and no difficulties have been experienced by shipping in entering or leaving the Dock.

The erection of the godowns, the formation of roads and quays and the laying of the railways round the Dock was completed by the end of the year.

Work in connection with the reconstruction of the Main Wharf was commenced in June over a length of 700 feet measured westwards from the Victoria Dock and by the end of the year a length of 200 feet of blockwork wall had been completed, and very good progress had been made with the reinforced-concrete construction.

A total amount of £620,900 has been paid to Messrs. Topham, Jones & Railton, Limited, of which sum £213,200 was paid for work carried out during the year under review.

The following are the principal items of work executed during the year:—

Dredging at entrance of dock ...	27,800	C. yards.
Dredging for entrance walls ...	9,500	„
Dredging at Main Wharf Re- construction ...	55,000	„
Steel and ironwork in Cylinder Wharf ...	2,427	Tons.
Mass Concrete in Dock Walls & Main Wharf Reconstruction	11,220	C. yards.
Concrete in Blocks made ...	32,300	„
„ set ...	15,800	„

The average number of men employed per diem on the works and at the quarries during the year was 1,691.

SINGAPORE HARBOUR WORKS.

During the year good progress was made with the works. They are now nearing completion. The north and south walls have been completed together with their metalled quays. The north and south piers were practically completed but for the provision of the transit sheds that are to be erected thereon. The depositing of granite rubble on the mole stopped in July. When the landing stages and temporary lights at its heads are erected the mole will be complete. The reclamation work is complete, but a small amount of filling material will yet require to be deposited in the work to make good the settlements of the ground due to consolidating of materials already deposited. During the year the dredging proceeded as usual and 183,000 cubic yards were dredged and taken to sea; the dredging is practically finished.

At the end of the year the average number of men employed on both at Singapore and at the quarries at Pulau Ubin was 28 Europeans and 760 Asiatics.

During the year the sum of £129,500 was paid to the contractors. The total cost of the Harbour Works up to the end of the year amounted to £1,545,000.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department under all heads of service was \$2,465,511.

It was distributed as follows:—

			\$
Singapore	...	...	1,048,284
Labuan	...	...	17,261
Malacca	...	...	568,781
Penang and the Dindings		...	531,757
Province Wellesley	...	...	299,426

Among the more important works completed were the:—

			\$
New Offices and Supper Room, Government House, at a cost of	...	...	89,500
Extension to Government Printing Office at a cost of	...	...	64,000
Revetment walls to both sides of Rochore Canal from Kandang Kerbau to Bencoolen Street	...	...	91,200
A revetment wall to the Malacca Reclamation	...	...	38,000
Additions and alterations to Durian Daun Hospital, Malacca	...	...	35,999
New Girls' School and Teachers' Quarters, Northam Road, Penang		...	62,958

The principal works in hand are: in Singapore the erection of 19 quarters for clerks, Kandang Kerbau; lining the banks of Rochore Canal with concrete between Bencoolen Street and Arab Street; and in Penang the construction of the Penang Hills Railway.

The "special" expenditure upon metalling or re-metalling roads amounted to \$106,304: 18½ miles of road were thus treated at an average cost of \$5,669 per mile.

The Annually Recurrent Expenditure upon road maintenance was \$560,193.

The road system thus maintained comprises 552 miles of metalled road, 65 miles of gravelled road (45 miles in Malacca, and 20 miles in the Dindings) and 752 miles of natural road (of which the greater part lies in Malacca and Province Wellesley).

CHRISTMAS ISLAND.

The total revenue collected at the District Office in 1914 was \$4,283.50. The chief item was \$3,523.15 from liquor duty. In 1913 the revenue was \$4,222.75. Besides this revenue there is due a sum of \$1,500 for rent of the island, and a royalty on phosphate exported.

The expenses paid by the District Office amounted to \$14,746.37, compared with \$11,408.55 in 1913. The increase is due to the presence of a more highly paid staff.

The imports consisted of machinery, tools, railway material, locomotives and lorries. The value was £15,282-2-4 against £20,127-12-4 in 1913, but the imports of that year were exceptionally valuable.

Ninety-three thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine tons of phosphate of lime were exported, against 150,003 tons in 1913. Germany, Austria and the Scandinavian countries continued to be the chief customers.

The total tonnage entered and cleared at Flying Fish Cove was 96,110 tons, compared with 150,016 tons in 1913.

In spite of the alteration of labourers' contracts in June no scarcity of labour occurred.

During the year the Christmas Island Co. laboured steadily in opening up the island. A railway stretching six miles from Flying Fish Cove has approached within a mile of the Grantswell Lines. The pier begun in 1912 has progressed slowly.

Health in 1914 was on the whole, fair.

The population on 31st December numbered 1,527: on 31st December, 1914, 1,036—made up of 986 men, 33 women and 17 children.

The average temperature was 81·4° F.

GENERAL.

The war affected the prosperity of the Colony less than might have been expected. The revenue for 1914 (\$14,016,882) was the highest ever recorded, exceeding the next highest—that of 1912—by \$1,104,305. Although this rise was due mainly to greater profits on opium it was accompanied by a decreased consumption of the drug. Moreover, in spite of the prohibition of Chinese and Tamil immigration after the beginning of August the total volume of local produce shipped from our ports remained about the same. Rubber, tin, copra and gambier all showed increases in export.

The year began badly. The failure of the Kwong Yik Bank had injured many small local undertakings and had shaken public confidence in Chinese banking methods; it seemed as though the interests of depositors were being sacrificed to those of borrowers and directors. Naturally depositors became nervous; and the fear of a sudden panic among investors led the Chinese Commercial Bank to discuss its affairs frankly with Government with a view to special assistance should any unexpected crisis threaten it. These discussions were destined to bear fruit later when war

broke out. In the meantime the Companies' Amendment Ordinance was passed to check the abuse of directors' powers; and arrangements were made to strengthen the department of the Official Assignee and Registrar of Public Companies so as to bring it into closer touch with local business enterprise.

In May there was made with the Sultan of Johore an agreement which in peaceful times would have been regarded as the most important event of the year. Under this agreement His Highness accepted the General Adviser as the representative of the British Government and arranged to govern in accordance with that officer's advice. His Highness's aims and wishes were embodied in a letter addressed by him to the Governor and were accepted by the latter in every detail. Throughout its history the modern Sultanate of Johore has been associated so intimately with the Settlement of Singapore that the new agreement cannot fail to be to the advantage of both the contracting parties; in fact it has been followed already by improved relations between the two Governments. When war broke out the Sultan placed himself and his forces unreservedly at the disposal of the Imperial Government and has had the opportunity at a more recent date to prove both the value and sincerity of his co-operation.

In June the Governor proceeded on six months' leave to Europe a period of furlough that was destined to be cut short by the march of events. In His Excellency's absence I administered the Government with Mr. W. G. MAXWELL as Acting Colonial Secretary.

In July the fear of war in Europe began to disturb local business conditions. At the close of the month Mr. W. W. COOK of the Straits Trading Company informed me that owing to the state of the tin market it was doubtful whether his company with its limited working capital would be in a position to finance the mining industry indefinitely should the metal cease to find a ready sale. This warning was of supreme importance because of the large numbers of coolies (some 250,000) dependent on the tin industry for their livelihood. The Federated Malay States Government, though primarily interested, was not in a position to help the industry financially; and it became necessary for the Colonial Government to face the possibility of having to take the place of the Straits Trading and Eastern Smelting Companies as the buyer of Federated Malay States tin.

Of course there were alternative proposals. One, suggested in the press and elsewhere, was the provision by the Public Works Department of relief works for the unemployed mining coolies. This proposal would have helped the coolies but not the industry; and even as a measure of relief it was wasteful and unsatisfactory in that a miner is more likely to be efficient and contented at his own work than at a task to which he is unaccustomed. It was also too costly: money spent on relief works would not renew

itself while money spent on the purchase of tin would be replaced from time to time by the sale of the metal. Another proposal—put forward at a later date by the Selangor Chamber of Commerce—suggested the grant of advances to miners. This alternative would have assisted the wealthier mine-owners, but it would not have enabled the poorer workers to sell their tin outright except to speculators who could have exploited them ruthlessly at a time when money was tight.

In any case it became clear that an industrial crisis accompanied by much unemployment was imminent; and on the 3rd August the introduction of deck passengers from Southern China and the Coromandel Coast was prohibited by an order under the Quarantine Enactment. To relieve the labour market still further free passages to their own homes were offered to all destitute and unemployed coolies who wished to be repatriated.

Early in August Mr. COOK, with Mr. NUTT, M.F.C., called at Government House and reported that the Straits Trading Company was no longer prepared to buy tin on its own account. They were authorized at once to purchase it on Government account.

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my personal indebtedness to Mr. W. W. COOK whose advice and assistance were invaluable to me at a very critical time.

On the 5th August a conference was held with the Acting Chief Secretary, the Acting Resident of Selangor, and the unofficial members of the Federal Council at Kuala Lumpur. The arrangement as to the purchase of tin was approved, and assistance was also promised to the rubber industry. While the conference was sitting, news was received of the declaration of war against Germany.

The effect of the outbreak of hostilities was discounted by the state of uncertainty and uneasiness that had previously prevailed—a condition as harmful to trade as war itself could have been. Business remained bad but it was no worse than before. The general public concerned itself for the moment with minor issues such as the sufficiency of our food supplies and the attempts of small tradesmen to force up prices. A few days were enough to allay anxiety and make it clear that siege conditions were not going to prevail in Singapore.

The economic position was more intricate. The following figures will make it plain that there was no actual lack of currency at this time:—

		<i>Currency Notes in Circulation.</i>	<i>Coin reserve.</i>
		—	—
		\$	\$ c.
31st December, 1913	...	43,222,548	23,912,802 71
31st July, 1914	...	43,834,548	24,524,802 71

But this currency was not circulating freely. The "bazaar" hoarded cash, realizing whatever it could and paying out as little as possible. There was a disastrous run on the Chinese Commercial Bank; and other banks were forced to pursue a cautious policy, making few advances and keeping a strict watch on their cash reserves.

For the first day or two Government had been purchasing tin by means of cheques on its bank balances. It was, however, realized that purchases averaging \$100,000 a day could not be continued indefinitely without disturbing banking conditions and making money still tighter. The Currency Commissioners then came forward and bought for \$3,155,000 securities from the Federated Malay States Government, paying for them in fresh notes and thus providing the Government with a fund which made it possible to buy tin and to advance money to planters and others without depleting in any way its reserves in the banks. Certain banks also increased the currency in circulation by giving gold for notes. The following figures give the nett result of these transactions:—

<i>Notes in Circulation.</i>		<i>Coin reserve.</i>	
—		—	
	\$	\$	c.
31st July, 1914 ...	43,834,548	24,524,802	71
31st August, 1914 ...	48,176,148	25,711,402	71

This increase of the currency relieved the tension of the money market materially and with the increase in confidence brought about a return to normal business conditions at a comparatively early date. At the close of the year the notes in circulation amounted to \$48,487,648 and the coin reserve to \$26,022,902.71.

Besides the help given to the Federated Malay States Government for the purchase of tin and for advances on rubber the Colonial Government lent \$50,000 to assist the planting industry in Malacca, \$300,000 to the Chinese Commercial Bank, and \$400,000 to another bank. A few small loans to planters are still outstanding; but for this exception the sums lent as above mentioned in the crisis have been repaid in full.

It may now be mentioned that the supply of unissued currency notes of small denominations in the hands of the Commissioners was too limited for war purposes when war broke out. The stock was barely sufficient to meet the more pressing demands for currency. This deficiency (which has since been made good) intensified the strain of the situation for those who had to deal with it. An ampler supply of notes would have given a proper margin of safety and would have allayed all anxiety as to the financial position.

The outbreak of hostilities raised some important issues as to the status and trade of alien enemies residing in the Colony. Trade with Germany itself was of course prohibited at once; but the practice of nations in previous wars had not been such as to justify the immediate internment of enemy subjects and the closing down of enemy firms, with the result that the Colony was for a few days in the anomalous position of a base from which Germans of military age might possibly set out to bear arms against us. On the 7th August a number of enemy reservists attempted to leave Singapore by the s. s. *Rumphius* for the express purpose of joining the garrison at Tsingtau. They were made prisoners of war and were released only on parole. All German subjects were then made to sign undertakings not to take part in certain hostile acts against Great Britain and were subjected to certain restrictions. In justice to them it must be added that their conduct gave very little cause for complaint. There were one or two minor offences against trade rules or against the censorship, but there is no evidence that any German or Austrian prisoner was guilty of serious political crime. The rumours of secret wireless installations set up in the Colony by enemy subjects were mere *canards* unsupported by any evidence.

On the 6th September the Governor returned from leave. The financial position was then somewhat easier, there being a market for tin, but on two subsequent occasions the Government was compelled to assist the mining industry for short periods by purchases of the metal.

Very early in the war the question of providing a Malaya Contingent for service at the front had been taken up by the Military Authorities but it was understood that the system of providing small irregular forces was not well adapted to the needs of a great European war. In September the proposal was modified and it was suggested that passages should be provided by public subscription for men who desired to enlist in the new forces. This new proposal was open to the objection that passages would be given to intending recruits who might be rejected on arrival in England as physically unfit for service in the Army. The Government thereupon telegraphed to England offering to provide the passages if the War Office would consent to open a recruiting office in the Colony. After some delay an arrangement was arrived at under which the risk of rejection was minimized by the holding at Singapore of a medical examination of would-be recruits by officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps. By the end of the year passages had been given to 245 recruits.

The question of inaugurating a relief fund for the sufferers by the war was also discussed in August; but it was decided that the tightness of money and the uncertainty of trade conditions made it expedient to await more settled times. In September matters had improved. On the 5th October a public meeting

was held under the presidency of the Governor for the appointment of a Committee to collect subscriptions for the Prince of Wales' Fund. By the end of the year \$192,747 had been collected from the Singapore public, and £10,000 had been voted to the fund by the Government of the Colony. A portion (about 20 per cent) of the Singapore subscriptions were allocated to local relief. The collections for the Prince of Wales' Fund amounted on 31st December, 1914 to \$68,483.47 at Penang and \$7,985.08 at Malacca.

On the 10th September in the Bay of Bengal the German cruiser *Emden* began its long series of attacks upon British merchant shipping in Eastern waters. It succeeded in destroying a number of vessels but in no case did it sink any trader that had only just left one or other of the ports of the Colony. If, as has been suggested, the cruiser obtained its information of the movements of shipping from newspapers found on captured vessels the strict censorship exercised in the Colony over such details may account for the comparative immunity enjoyed by ships plying continuously in our local waters. The destruction of the *Troilus* after its departure from Colombo with a valuable Singapore cargo was the most serious injury done by the *Emden* to the British Mercantile Marine. On the 28th October the *Emden* made a bold dash into the harbour of Penang and sank the Russian cruiser *Jemtchug* at her moorings and the French destroyer *Mousquet* off Muka Head. This was its last success. On the 9th November a telegram reached Singapore to the effect that the German man-of-war had appeared off the Cocos Islands and was landing a party to destroy the cable-station. Very shortly afterwards a further message was received that an unknown British cruiser had arrived suddenly on the scene and had attacked the *Emden*. After an anxious period of silence and suspense the news came through that H. M. A. S. *Sydney* had driven the enemy's warship ashore on North Keeling Island.

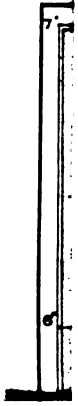
The doings of the *Emden* drew attention to the risk involved in giving almost unlimited freedom to alien enemies living in our ports. It is only fair to the German residents to say that most of them are known to have behaved in an exemplary manner at a very trying time and that there is no evidence whatever that information of the movements of British shipping reached the *Emden* through any breach of their parole. But the business done by German firms with neutral states, which in turn traded with Germany, made it difficult to prevent money and information filtering through from the Colony into enemy countries. The one serious objection to general internment—its being contrary to the usual practice of nations in previous wars—had been removed by the action of the German Government itself which had interned its own enemy subjects and had

shown a repeated disregard for international law and treaties. On the 25th October general instructions were issued for the internment of Germans and Austrians. On the 4th December this action was followed up with a bill for the compulsory winding-up of enemy companies. On the 11th December this bill became law.

The attention of the general public during the closing months of the year has been so focussed on imperial issues that a change of great moment to the Colony has escaped almost unnoticed. For some years past it had been the endeavour of the Straits Settlements Government to arrive at some arrangement for purchasing raw opium at a fixed price direct from the Government of India. Some such system is necessary in the interests of our revenue of which no accurate forecast can be given so long as the price of opium is driven up or down by the intrigues of speculators in India and the success or failure of smuggling into China. True, the Colony had suffered little in actual practice. Estimates have always erred on the side of caution; and the profits on the drug have been guarded against temporary fluctuations of price by the maintenance of large reserve stocks. But the keeping of such reserves means the locking up of capital; and cautious revenue estimates require a similar caution on the expenditure side if the risk of financial trouble is to be avoided. Above all, the system of direct dealings in raw opium between the various Governments concerned (if it became general) would be the surest preventive of smuggling in that it would not allow the raw material to pass into private hands. In October last the desired agreement was arrived at. Opium is now sold direct by India to the Colony to the full extent of its requirements; and the capital locked up in our reserves of the raw product is being made available for other purposes at a time when it is specially needed.

R. J. WILKINSON,
Colonial Secretary.

24th April, 1915.



COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913-1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	"
861	Gambia	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

L O N D O N :
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK, S.E.

1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

LIB.
FEB 15 1915

No. 863.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES
OF THE
GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR - 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 807.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of

T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd.7622-54] Price 2½d.

D.P. U. of G.
L.B.

CONTENTS.

	Page.
I. FINANCIAL	5
II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	5
III. LEGISLATION	12
IV. EDUCATION	12
V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	12
VI. JUDICIAL STATISTICS	13
VII. VITAL STATISTICS	15
VIII. POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS	18
IX. RELIGION	20
X. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	22

SKETCH MAP.

No. 863.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 807.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Accra,

30th August, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward, herewith, the report of the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories for the year 1914.

1. There is little to comment on in the report, and except for the war there was nothing to disturb the even tenor of conditions in this Protectorate. The Northern Territories Constabulary performed most useful services in connection with the operations against Togoland; and the frontier Chiefs exhibited much eagerness to assist our arms in the hope that tribes long divided by artificial and unnatural political boundaries may now be reunited under the British flag.

The many Mahommedans in the Protectorate maintained a staunch allegiance to the British cause, and, although on the outbreak of war with Turkey some wandering mallams made determined efforts in the neighbouring French territory to stir up disaffection, Captain Armitage is able to record that "not a single fanatical Mahommedan ventured to preach sedition in the Protectorate."

I have already reported to you the generous contributions of the Northern Territories' Chiefs to the Imperial War Fund.

2. The trade in cattle appears likely to continue to be the staple industry of the Northern Territories. Although the war and a deficient rainfall caused a great falling off in the North-Eastern Province, it is satisfactory to note that a new cattle trade, described by Captain Armitage as one of great importance, has developed in the North-Western Province.

(C202) Wt. 36076, 850. 1125 & 90. 10.15. B & F. Lt 1., Gp. 11/2.

3. Captain Armitage offers few comments on the cotton industry in the Protectorate. As stated in my despatch of the 28th August, I consider that owing to the consistently poor return per acre obtainable in the Northern Territories, it is futile to continue the attempt to push an industry which has no prospect whatever of becoming remunerative.

4. With reference to the Chief Commissioner's remarks on labour, the Acting Colonial Secretary (Mr. Harper) notes :—

“ It is satisfactory from our point of view to find that the natives are coming to Ashanti to work. A few years ago they had to be shepherded. Many of them are to be found in the cocoa districts of the Eastern Province, and were employed on railway construction. The disadvantage is that the cheap rates of labour in the Northern Territories itself are disappearing.”

5. I have only to add that the Chief Commissioner, Captain C. H. Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O., administered the Northern Territories not only throughout the year 1914, but up till July of the present year, and the continued prosperity and loyalty of the Protectorate is a significant testimony to the sagacity with which he controls its affairs.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

A. R. SLATER,

Acting Governor

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,

&c., &c.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies,

Downing Street, S.W.

Yours,

1915

I.—FINANCIAL.

Nothing occurred during the year 1914 to alter the conditions that have obtained in this Protectorate since the abolition of the "Caravan Tolls" on the 1st September, 1908, from which date the revenue became an almost negligible quantity.

The excellent main roads which traverse the Dependency are made use of by the many caravans passing to and from Ashanti without payment of any kind, although the removal of the "Caravan Toll" was at first regarded by the native traders with the greatest dismay, as they considered that the receipt that they received on payment of the toll represented a guarantee for their free and unmolested passage through the Protectorate.

It is to be noted that the Customs receipts for goods imported for consumption in the Northern Territories are credited to the Colony, as is the revenue made by the Sekondi-Kumasi Railway from the transport of live stock which arrives at Kumasi from or through the Northern Territories.

Nor has it been realised how great an amount of labour, without which the prosperity of Ashanti, and to a lesser degree that of the Colony, would be jeopardised, has been, and continues to be, supplied to both from this Protectorate. The remarkable growth of the cocoa industry in Ashanti is due, in a large measure, to labour supplied from the Northern Territories. The Ashanti, never an agriculturist, is only too pleased to pay the native of the Northern Territories from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per diem in addition to his food, in exchange for his work on the cocoa farms.

The prosperity of the firms trading in Kumasi is also attributable in part to the purchases made by native traders from this Protectorate, the *ad valorem* duty on which is credited to the revenue of the Colony.

The nickel coinage of three denominations—one penny, one half-penny and one tenth of a penny—introduced into the Protectorate in June, 1913, has become exceedingly popular among the natives, and, if a sufficient supply were provided, would completely supersede the cowrie.

Tenths are the coins most in demand, and a very large supply of these will be needed to satisfy native demands.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.*Imports and Exports.*

As stated in previous Reports on this Protectorate, it is impossible, under present conditions, to give more than an approximate estimate of the volume of trade entering and leaving the country. Trade statistics are kept at stations situated on the main trade routes, but as the registration of live stock and trade goods is voluntary, and as

many caravans—especially those composed of live stock—pass through the stations during the night, the figures given can be looked on only as an indication of a general increase or decrease in trade, as the case may be. The trade routes from the north through Daboya to Kintampo, and others of minor importance, do not pass through any stations where statistics can be collected, nor are such compiled at Kintampo in Ashanti. Imports consist generally of cotton and woollen goods, silk handkerchiefs and lengths, hardware, haberdashery, beads, brass rods, tobacco, tinned provisions, and kola nuts from Ashanti.

There has been a great falling off in the caravan trade of all descriptions in the North-Eastern Province and the Commissioner reports a total decrease of 41,155 in cattle, sheep, donkeys, and donkey and carrier' loads, but this is accounted for by the war and the unusually small rainfall, as well as by the drought in Moshi, and is more than compensated for by the greatly increased trade passing through the North-Western Province, of which the Commissioner writes as follows :

“ In the Annual Report for the North-Western Province for 1912 was written ‘ but little trade comes from the North through Lorha.’ Since then a vast change has come over the scene. The schedules of trade statistics show the enormous increase in the number of cattle, the greater part of which come through Lorha.

“ This trade is new to the Northern Territories and is of great importance even if only the value of the herds is considered.

“ These herds, frequently 300 in number, and owned by one man, come from the fertile grass lands of the Niger Valley from around Segou, San Mopti, and Safara, some 400 to 450 miles North of Wa.

“ Nearly all are large humped bullocks in prime condition, which, if there is a good market, should fetch £5 apiece in Ashanti.

“ Enquiries made from returning traders, however, show that the market has been flooded and prices very low; consequently many sold their herds at a loss but are in no way discouraged and say they will return again and perhaps next time make a better deal.

“ Their losses on the road are about 11 per cent. as there are few drivers, frequently only two or three Fulanis to 100 or 150 cattle. But little trade goods are brought back; instead, they acquire English sovereigns and French dollars (5 franc pieces). The gold is readily exchanged for them in all French stations, five dollars being given for a sovereign. The export of gold is therefore very considerable, but to find out even approximately what it amounts to is a difficult matter, as it is not easy to intercept and interrogate individual returning traders.

“ As an example, on the 20th October three traders stated they had passed Wa with 240 cattle; of these 13 per cent. died on the road, and after buying gowns and cloths for themselves and their followers in Kumasi, the traders were returning with £205 in gold and some dollars.

“ Probably at least 70 per cent. of the cattle sales returns to French country in gold.

“ In spite of reports of a bad market there has been an increase in the number of cattle taken south by natives of this Province, who, it is satisfactory to note, are themselves competing with the Wongaras and Moshi, and going north into the Moshi country to buy their stock and keeping them in a good feeding country for two or three months before driving them to Ashanti.

“ One small herd of 39 owned by Walas so purchased, averaged 46s. a head in Kumasi, which was above the average price. These traders return with cloth, kola, and dollars, the latter wherewith to purchase cattle again in Moshi.

"Trade other than the cattle trade is insignificant and consists principally of cloth and hardware, most of the former being purchased in Ashanti by men who have gone down to work there.

"In parts of Lobi there are still many natives to whom cloth is unknown and the arrival of a boy in a white coat, who had been working in Ashanti, at one such village, was the signal for some 30 to 40 youths of the village starting empty-handed to go to the country where such marvels were obtained. Were traders to show a little more enterprise, good business could be done, as this part of the country is rich in live stock, particularly sheep and goats.

"The value of hides is beginning to be recognised by the people and loads of them are now sent south.

"Attempts have been made to encourage the collection of beeswax, but so far without result, except in very small quantities. Many of the Chiefs, however, have shown much interest in specimens that have been shown them and it is a trade that it is hoped will develop in time."

The Commissioner Southern Province states :—

"In spite of the war and a very bad drought, the trade passing through the Province has been quite satisfactory.

"Live stock certainly has decreased, sheep showing a falling off of nearly 10,000 and cattle of 2,000. This is undoubtedly due to the drought in the earlier part of the year, many cattle dying on the road from want of water, and to the outbreak of war in the last half of the year. It is unfortunate to have to note that the export of our only purely local product, viz., shea-butter, shows a great falling off, a decrease of over 5,000 loads. This possibly may be accounted for by the lowness of the river, as the export of this product has been on the increase for the last few years. It may, however, be said that the export of shea-butter cannot increase to any great extent until there is cheaper transport. The import of European cloth shows a good increase and so also does that of kola.

"The trading in most of the goods mentioned in our statistics, with the exception perhaps of shea-butter and dawa dawa, is in 90 per cent. of cases done by non-natives of the Province. These men come down from the north with cattle, etc., and spend practically no money on the road. They exchange Moshi cloth, crystals for darkening the eyes, etc., for food.

"Although they benefit Kumasi and other parts of the Colony, where they sell their cattle for cash and buy cloth in return, it is quite doubtful if they are of any benefit at all to the Northern Territories.

"The trade in European cloth is steadily on the increase, viz. :—5,818 loads in 1912, 11,464 loads in 1913, 13,616 in 1914. I believe the majority of these loads go up into French country, but still I think the fact of the increase is a clear indication that the people of the Northern Territories are developing a growing demand for European cloth.

"With regard to local trade, this consists practically altogether in the sale of foodstuffs. There is also a small trade in such things as enamel work, copper rods, beads, and cloth.

"A certain number of Dagombas now go up to the northern portions of the Protectorate *e.g.*, Kanjarga, and there purchase cattle which they drive to Kumasi. This trade by natives of the Province is on the increase."

Travellers had to pay for water for their personal use, and during the dry season a soldier on his way to Kumasi on leave from Northern Nigeria informed me on his arrival at Tamale that he had paid no less a sum than £2 for water since he had entered the Protectorate at Bawku.

The figures available give a total of 332,564 loads registered during the year as against 310,699 in 1912, an increase of 21,865 loads.

The principal increases appear under the following heads: Miscellaneous, 57,932, and Cattle, 7,079, while decreases occur under Sheep 24,033, Donkeys 3,373, Dawa Dawa 3,083, Shea-butter 5,765½, Cloth 1,385, and Native Blankets 1,830.

It is very probable that, after the occupation of Togoland by the Allies, many cattle, sheep, and donkey caravans travelled down the Togoland road along the left bank of the Volta to Kete Kratchi.

During the year kola and salt were exported over the inland frontiers through the Preventive Stations established on the Eastern boundary of the Protectorate as follows:—

Destination.							Kola (lbs.).	Salt (lbs.).
British	..	..	..	..	..	..	734,860	952
French	..	..	..	..	..	..	297,240	2,412
German	..	..	..	..	..	..	195,049	11,088
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,227,149	14,452

an increase of 263,192 lbs. in kola nuts, and a decrease of 3,832 lbs. in salt as compared with the previous year's figures. The decrease in salt occurred through the small quantity exported to Togoland, which was 6,580 lbs. less than in 1913.

The above figures were supplied by Officers of the Preventive Service.

Fish, caught in the Volta River and sun-dried, are exported to Ashanti and the Coast, but this industry is in the hands of the Bator tribe, who come up the river and encamp on its banks during the fishing season.

Agriculture.

The comparatively small rainfall caused a partial failure of the crops and the price of foodstuffs rose considerably throughout the Protectorate. The Commissioners have reported as follows:—

Southern Province.

"The area of land under cultivation seems to be steadily on the increase. The crops during the year were seriously affected by the drought, those of maize and ground-nuts being particularly touched, and so also was millet. Guinea corn seems to have done well, especially in the Karaga area.

"Yam crops were only very average and yams are in consequence now rising in price. It is peculiar that more rice is not grown, as much low-lying swampy ground would appear to be suitable for its cultivation.

"The demand for food is on the increase and is greater than the supply, and, in consequence, the price of food is gradually rising. There is always a serious shortage of food between May and the cutting of the first millet crop, this fact alone demonstrating that not enough food is grown. It is thought that the cause of this is due to a certain extent to our calls for carriers at all times of the year, as not alone does this practice deplete certain country-sides at critical farming times, but also the young men are inclined to leave the country on account of it."

The District Commissioner, Salaga, says :—

“ Several Chiefs report that on account of the constant demands for carriers their young men are leaving and are going to Kumasi and the Coast, where they can get better pay.

“ In the Tamale District alone over 4,000 boys were taken from their farms for periods varying from four to thirty days, and when we calculate the total male population who can work on farms this drain must be very heavy on a population which is purely agricultural.”

The District Commissioner, Bole, reports :—

“ The quantity of game in the district seriously affects farming, many of the young men being away from their villages continually in the pursuit of game when they should be on their farms.

“ There are small herds of cattle kept by the natives in the Tamale, Salaga, and Bole Districts, but none in Yeji on account of the tsetse fly. The question of encouraging the people to increase their herds has been frequently discussed. The first difficulty is, however, water. When natives themselves have very often to go four and five miles for water for their own use, how can large herds of cattle be kept by them ? The Southern Province would naturally be the country to encourage the natives most to breed cattle in, as it is nearest the southern markets, and the people ought to be able to compete successfully with natives from the north, who have to drive their cattle very long distances.

“ On the other hand the country may for some reason not be suitable for the breeding of cattle, and if an experiment was made by the Government, perhaps the fine grass lands of Kunjaga or Fra Fra (the North-Eastern Province) would produce better results. Generally speaking, it may be stated that the natives of the Province do not breed cattle for export. Rather they keep them for domestic uses.”

Agricultural Station, Tamale.

An area of 98 acres was under cultivation during the year. Of this, 25 acres were planted with various varieties of cotton, but owing to many of the plots becoming water-logged, and thus preventing the growth of the plants, a comparatively poor yield of 1,812 lbs. of cotton was collected, a decrease of $4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per acre, as compared with the 1913 crop.

Other crops consisted of yams, maize, guinea corn, rice, the “ fra fra ” and sweet potatoes, ground-nuts, pigeon peas, and several varieties of beans. Many trees in the timber section died during the year owing to the drought. A large number of ornamental and shade trees, as well as shrubs and plants, were distributed from the nursery.

Stock Farms.

The herd of cattle had increased from 35 at the commencement of the year to 47 at its close. All draught work on the farm was done by three oxen and a bull.

Sisal hemp was planted at Daboya and Tamale-Port in 1913, and these plots were maintained by the Chiefs. The Senior Curator visited them towards the end of the year under review, and has reported on them favourably.

British Cotton Growing Association.

The total purchases of native cotton made by the Association during the year was 23,708 lbs. as compared with 23,175 lbs. in 1913, 7,849 lbs. in 1912, and 4,172 lbs. in 1911.

The Manager reports as follows :—

Cotton Purchases—Native.

Southern Province, Tamale ..	13,307 lbs.
North-Eastern Province ..	6,431 „
North-Western Province ..	3,970 „
Total purchases for the season ..	23,708 „
Lint purchases ex-Agricultural Station, various varieties ..	555 „

Seed Distribution.

Southern Province ..	14,426 „
North-Eastern Province ..	2,580 „
North-Western Province ..	780 „
Total quantity of seed distributed ..	17,786 „

“ Travelling.—Total number of days spent in actual travelling by various members of the staff—1,059.

“ *European Staff engaged in the Northern Territories.*—During the first four months, two, and for the remainder of the year, one.

“ *Remarks.*—Buying Centres. Seven stations were opened in the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces, the purchases from these districts making up the decrease of 10,000 lbs. in the purchases from the Southern Province, as compared with the year 1913. This decrease, so I understand, was due to the heavy rains during the months of August and September, the plants becoming water-logged and stunted. The purchases made at the various stations in the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces compare favourably with those obtaining in the Southern Province during the first and second seasons.

“ *Ginning Centres.*—With a view to reducing the cost of transport on cotton seed and seed cotton, machines were erected at Wa in the North-Western Province and at Gambaga in the North-Eastern Province for the purpose of ginning all cotton purchased in the respective Provinces.

“ *Livestock.*—For some time horses and donkeys have been used for transport purposes between Tamale and the North-Western Province, and owing to the fact of their having to pass through the tsetse belt en route for Wa, nine donkeys and four horses have died as the result of infection.”

North-Western Province.

“ The season on the whole was a bad one, the rains falling in June and July, and the later and usually heavy rains of September being smaller than usual. In consequence most of the bean and ground-nut crops were a failure.

“ Just at the time when these should have been harvested there was an influx of Moshis to buy foodstuffs, there being a famine in their own country. The prices they offered, usually in undesirable cowries beloved by the Dagartis, tempted many improvident people to sell what they had, with the natural result that when their bean crops failed they were short of food.

"This invasion of the Dagarti markets caused prices to go up over 50 per cent. in a few weeks for all foodstuffs in Wa and surrounding markets. In the northern districts of the Province, where food was very scarce, as last year's harvest was a light one, after another light crop this year, and in many places a total failure of all the first crops, the outlook is serious."

The Commissioner reports that the comparatively small supply of cotton brought in for sale by the natives of his Province was far from being encouraging.

North-Eastern Province.

"Owing to the very scanty rainfall, most crops have been a partial failure, and the cotton crop wholly so.

"This latter fact is rather disheartening, coming at a time when the people were just beginning to show some interest in the growth of cotton. It will be difficult to regain the good ground that has been lost in this respect owing to this unfortunate drought.

"The principal crops are guinea corn and millet in the northern portion of the Province, and the same, with the addition of yams and Indian maize, in the southern portion.

"The so-called "fra fra" potato, various beans, ground-nuts, and okroe are grown in smaller quantities all over the Province.

"No attempt seems to be made by the natives of the Province generally to grow much more than just sufficient supplies for home consumption, and this accounts for their being so hardly hit when the rains fail. It is with the very greatest difficulty that market supplies have been kept up, especially towards the end of the year."

Industries.

As stated last year, apart from agriculture, native industries are confined to the production of articles of local use and wear. Serviceable cloths are woven from native cotton yarn, and pottery, baskets, mats, rope, saddlery, and leather goods, brass ornaments, and iron hoe and axe-heads are manufactured, with other small articles necessary for the wants of a primitive people.

The dyeing of native cloths and cotton goods and the smelting of iron from the ore give employment to natives in various parts of the Protectorate, and salt is produced by evaporation at Daboya. Gunpowder is manufactured in small quantities in Grunshi, but does not possess a high point of ignition.

Minerals.

Gold-bearing quartz and alluvial deposits have been found in the neighbourhood of Wa and in the Bole District, where they are worked by Ashantis, and a certain amount of prospecting was carried out in the Dependency in 1902 and succeeding years, but lack of transport facilities debarred the undertaking of mining operations on a large scale, and such mining concessions as were then acquired have lapsed.

Coal is stated to have been found along the right bank of the White Volta River below Daboya, but this has not been verified.

The reward offered throughout the Protectorate by the Chief Commissioner in 1912 to any native who discovered and brought in to the local Commissioners mineralogical specimens that proved to contain tin has not been claimed.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Four ordinances were enacted by the Governor, and rules with respect to prisons, to markets, to the boundaries of Tamale Township and Cantonments, and to cemeteries in the Protectorate were framed and approved by His Excellency.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Government Primary School opened at Tamale in March, 1909, continued to be well and regularly attended throughout the year. There was an average daily attendance of 90, as compared with 88 in 1913. The number of pupils examined at the annual examination held in November before the closing of the School for the Christmas holidays was 95, the examination being attended with results creditable alike to teachers and pupils. Five boys attended the Technical School at Accra, while six were employed at the Agricultural station and three at the British Cotton Growing Association's ginnery at Tamale.

The attendance at the Government School at Gambaga remained the same as in the previous year (14), and it was closed towards the end of the year, as no one could be spared to relieve the teacher, who went on leave.

The Father Superior of the Roman Catholic Mission (Pères Blancs), stationed at Navarro, has informed me that he has been obliged since the commencement of the war to close the school that was opened in connection with the Mission, owing to lack of funds, but that on its termination he hopes to see it re-established.

The boys attending this school were boarded, clothed, and fed. A few boys still attend a voluntary school held by the Fathers.

The Commissioners at Navarro (North-Eastern) Wa (North-Western) and Bole (Southern) Provinces have been requested by the local Chiefs to open Government schools, and predict good attendances. Mallams, who are to be found wherever Mohammedans reside, instruct the children in reading and writing, in Arabic, and in the repetition by heart of passages from the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

There are Government Hospitals at Tamale, Salaga, and Bole in the Southern Province, at Wa, Lorha, and Tumu in the North-Western Province, and at Zouaragu and Gambaga in the North-Eastern Province.

The hospitals at Navarro and Bawku in the last mentioned Province were closed during the year owing to the dearth of Medical Officers, but both buildings were kept in repair and re-roofed.

The native attendance at these hospitals increases yearly. 1,971 out-patients and 110 in-patients were treated at the Tamale Hospital and the figures for the Zouaragu Hospital were 939 and 245 respectively, for Salaga 971 and 24, and for Gambaga 697 and 1.

Government schools are established at Tamale and Gambaga and are referred to under "Education."

Officers are supplied with boxes of vegetable seeds each quarter for use in the Government gardens established at all stations.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

The Commandant reports that discipline was well maintained during the year and compared favourably with that of 1913, and the same may be said of general efficiency and shooting.

There was no change in the organisation of the Force.

A non-commissioned officer and constable sent to Kumasi to undergo a course of cold shoeing and veterinary dressing were well reported on by the Veterinary Officer.

Prisons.

The central prison at Tamale is in charge of the Provincial Medical Officer and a native Keeper of Prisons, with the following staff :—

One senior warder, one second-class warder, and an average number of sixteen temporary warders.

All prisoners sentenced to six months imprisonment and over undergo their terms of imprisonment in this prison, where a stricter discipline than is possible at outstations is maintained.

The total number of prisoners admitted to Tamale Prison during the year was two hundred, with a daily average number of 69·49 convicts. Of these, three escaped and one was re-captured.

Eight executions were carried out, and there were eight deaths. The general health of the convicts, who were employed chiefly in sanitary work, water carrying, repairing roads, streets, and culverts, and sinking wells was good.

Prisoners' rations are purchased in the market by the Keeper of Prisons and are cooked in the prison at a cost of a fraction over 2½d. per diem for each man. The three meals per diem thus supplied are good in quality and quantity.

There are gaols at Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Tumu, Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga, and Bawku, where prisoners whose sentences are less than six months' imprisonment are confined. These prisoners are employed as at Tamale.

Summary jurisdiction obtains in the Northern Territories. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and, as far as it is practicable, and local circumstances permit, the procedure in this Court, Civil and Criminal, is the same as that in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. Provincial Commissioners hear and determine all criminal offences punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or imprisonment for twelve months; District Commissioners hear cases punishable by a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or imprisonment for six months. The civil jurisdiction of Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners is limited to suits in which the claims do not exceed three hundred pounds and fifty pounds respectively.

Every encouragement has been given to the Chiefs to exercise their authority, to hear and determine cases relating to native property, marriage, and other civil actions, and to uphold native laws and customs, so long as they are not opposed to our ideas of justice and equity. Few appeals from decisions of the Chiefs are made to the Commissioners' Courts, and, as a rule, local authority is exercised with the greatest moderation.

The following is a comparative table of crime in this Dependency during the last four years:—

	1911	1912	1913	1914
Number of offences reported to the Police ..	800	661	664	803
Number of persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates ..	800	661	664	803
Number of summary convictions:—				
1. For offences against the person	94	108	113	95
2. For slave dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny	109	106	101	93
4. For offences against Health Acts	183	186	135	212
5. For offences against Master and Servant Acts, including Acts relating to indentured coolies	7	6	27	30
6. For other offences	255	137	125	195
Number of convictions in the Superior Court:—				
1. For offences against the person	7	1	3	24
2. For slave dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny	—	—	9	6
4. For other offences	—	6	7	14
Number of persons acquitted:—				
1. In the Inferior Courts	141	95	109	122
2. In the Superior Courts	4	7	6	11

In the Southern Province there was an increase of 61 in the number of offences dealt with in the Provincial Commissioner's Court, while four cases were committed for trial to the Chief Commissioner's Court, one being a case of murder from the Salaga District, this being the first on record from that District since British rule was established in the Protectorate.

The Provincial Commissioner North-Western Province reports :—

"An increase of crime was anticipated by many Chiefs, who complained of the Moshis coming in large parties and terrorising the people into selling foodstuffs ; it was not however realised in the way they anticipated, but a shortage of food in one District did lead to several robberies, not by Moshis but by the Grunshi inhabitants, who had previously borne a very good character and were driven by famine to commit crime.

"There were six cases of homicide or attempted homicide. On the whole it cannot be said that there is much crime in the Province of a serious nature."

The Provincial Commissioner North-Eastern Province states :—

"There were 6 murder cases from the Province during the year. Four of these were from Bawku and two from Gambaga.

"Cattle and sheep stealing seems to have been fairly prevalent, but when one considers the easy-going methods of the natives in allowing stock to stray at will, one wonders at so few cases being reported. Most of these cases were due to the visits of starving Moshis from French territory."

Eight men were convicted and executed for murder during the year under review, as against two in 1913, but three of these cases occurred in Togoland Dagomba after the commencement of the war. Apart from these the continued decrease of crime in the Protectorate is most gratifying, as is the conduct of the chiefs and headmen in their support of the authorities.

The withdrawal of the company of the Gold Coast Regiment from Zouaragu and of Constabulary from some of the outstations was in no way taken advantage of by the natives, who vied with each other in their expressions of loyalty to the Government, and although the temporary closing of the Bawku District, which gave rise to the usual rumour that the white man was about to leave the country, may account for the number of murders (four), that were perpetrated in that District, these in no way reflect on the exemplary conduct of the chiefs and people of the Bawku District as a whole.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The Provincial Medical Officer states in the Annual Report which he has submitted to the Principal Medical Officer, that the average number of Europeans resident in the Northern Territories was 22·3, but this estimate does not include the outstations of Yeji, Lorha, and Bawku, from which no returns have been received. The total number of those placed on the sick list was 31 for 216 days.

Three officials were invalided and there were no deaths, so that the general health in 1914 may be considered to have been excellent.

The average number of native officials resident in the Northern Territories was 48·75 ; of these 19 were placed on the sick list for 83 days ; none were invalided, and there were no deaths.

Of the European non-officials resident in the Protectorate two belonged to the Wesleyan Mission and three to the British Cotton Growing Association at Tamale, but in both cases there was practically but one resident at a time.

Their health was very good. At Navarro one of the five Fathers of the Roman Catholic Mission suffered from an attack of blackwater fever, but recovered.

Native Population.

One death from yellow fever was reported at Tamale in March, and one from Bole in May, while four suspected cases which recovered were treated at the hospital at Tamale.

A disease, reported in 1913, as having broken out in a small village near Yeji, and which was said to resemble strongly *pestis bubonica* made its appearance at the fishing village of Makongo also near Yeji in May during the year. The investigating medical officer reported that he saw four cases, one of which proved fatal, while five cases, of which four ended fatally, were reported previous to this.

Leprosy, as stated in last year's Annual Report, is not on the increase and, while uncommon in the Southern and North-Western Provinces, is of more frequent occurrence in the North-Eastern Province. The natives look upon it as "a visitation of Allah," but say that it shows no signs of spreading and are generally averse to compulsory isolation.

The health of natives resident in the Southern Province was generally good throughout the year.

The Provincial Commissioner of the North-Western Province states :—

"The health of Europeans and natives has been good.

"The only serious case of illness among officials was one of dysentery in Lorha. No epidemics have occurred among the natives.

"Sanitary regulations are in force in all stations. In towns outside those stations it is not possible to enforce them, and though natives in some of them have been instructed in methods of improving their surroundings they pay little attention to them.

"On all trade roads the Moshis and other traders are greatly responsible for the insanitary state of the towns, and attempts made some years ago to provide caravanserais for them led to their using rest-houses as such, nor could the headmen of the villages in which they were established enforce the users to keep them in repair ; consequently caravanserais are now only in use at stations where there are Commissioners. In these stations they are a conspicuous success."

An outbreak of anthrax, which attacked both man and cattle, occurred in the Kanjarga District of the North-Eastern Province in February and was responsible for a number of deaths in both instances.

This District was visited by the Veterinary Officer in July, who inspected the herds and gave advice to the native owners as to the preservation of health among their cattle.

Apart from this outbreak the general health of the natives may be described as good.

Water Supply.

The Provincial Medical Officer makes no comment under this head in his report for the year under review, and I cannot do better than quote the remarks made by his predecessor in his Report for the year 1913 :—

“ To procure an adequate and good supply of water is a serious problem throughout the Northern Territories. In the rainy season there is more than an adequate supply, but for several months of the dry season and away from the large rivers, water becomes so scarce that in many cases it amounts to a famine, and exorbitant prices are asked for a calabash of water.

“ It is all surface water. The first difficulty is to find water, and when found, then to prevent the well being filled up with earth after the very first rains. To prevent this calamity the sides of the well must be lined with stone and cement, and a stone and cement coping and apron made.

“ All this requires skilled labour, which outside Tamale is almost non-existent, and the price of cement in the Northern Territories is almost prohibitive. The work done in some stations by an energetic District Commissioner and Doctor is wonderful, considering the type of unskilled labour available, and the materials at hand. It must be remembered that the Public Works Department for the whole Northern Territories is represented by one Inspector of Works, with a handful of masons and carpenters, all resident in Tamale. The outlying stations have to do the best they can, with no skilled labour, no technical knowledge, few tools, little material, and difficult transport. At any cost the most pressing necessity now is the travelling around the Northern Territories of an experienced Public Works Department official to make properly constructed wells at each station. I cannot urge this point too strongly.”

The Provincial Medical Officer adds for the year under review :—

“ At the end of the year we were still awaiting essential parts of the semi-Rotary pumps ordered through the Crown Agents in February, 1914.

“ As stated in the report for 1913, until the material for boring artesian wells has been provided, I fear that we shall never be free from the spectre of a water famine. Even at Tamale during the dry season, the natives camp out all night round the wells and water holes to secure a calabashful of water as it slowly percolates through the sandstone, and free fights are of common occurrence, when pots are broken and valuable water spilled.”

The Provincial Commissioner North-Western Province writes :—

“ The water supply for Europeans is not satisfactory in any of the three stations. Probably owing to an abnormally dry season last year the wells in Wa dried up.

“ One of them had been in use for over ten years and though sometimes very low had never run dry before.

“ The pumps supplied are useless, and were never intended to raise water from a depth of 30 feet or more.

“ In Wa and Tumu the native water supplies are bad, especially in the dry season, but some improvement was made at Tumu by the sinking of wells for natives to use ; these wells are not, however, permanent.

“ In Wa at least one good supply could be made for the natives without much difficulty. Wells exist in the town but many of them dry up for three months or more.

"A new European well has been started but it will not be completed till April, when the wells are usually at their lowest level.

"The making of an adequate supply is merely a question of expenditure and some good skilled labour, both for the European and native supplies, and the expenditure would be inconsiderable compared with the benefit that would accrue."

The above remarks apply to the North-Eastern Province.

A Mansfield Patent Automatic water-finder, for locating water up to a depth of 200 feet was received towards the end of the year, but the experiments so far conducted with it at Tamale have been absolutely unsuccessful.

Meteorological Observations.

The rainfall during the year as recorded at Tamale was 33·32 inches, a decrease of 14·69 inches as compared with that of 1913.

The following table shows the monthly rainfall for the past seven years :—

	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.
January ..	nil	2·00	nil	nil	·01	nil	·05
February ..	nil	0·44	0·27	nil	·02	0·72	nil
March ..	0·94	2·23	1·17	7·98	1·64	0·72	1·63
April ..	2·88	6·12	5·77	1·68	3·75	1·57	·43
May ..	6·94	4·54	2·37	4·94	2·83	3·31	2·56
June ..	8·36	7·69	6·07	6·21	3·57	6·43	4·81
July ..	4·94	7·07	9·19	6·11	4·06	7·00	2·09
August ..	4·51	7·91	8·45	6·94	7·25	14·58	3·94
September ..	7·23	5·67	11·34	8·09	5·35	11·29	10·85
October ..	3·50	7·50	1·29	1·50	3·87	2·39	4·77
November ..	nil	0·32	nil	0·97	nil	nil	2·19
December ..	nil	0·09	0·29	nil	0·01	nil	nil
Total ..	39·30	51·58	46·21	44·42	32·36	48·01	33·32

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

There are Post and Telegraph offices at Tamale, Salaga, and Yeji.

The telegraph offices at Bole, Wa, and Gambaga remained closed, as such, during the year, owing to the shortage of qualified operators.

The Provincial Commissioner, North-Western Province reports :—

"No telegraph operator or Postmaster has been appointed to Wa, the only Post Office in the Province. The telegraph line is in good repair and since August has been open for Government telegrams through the medium of the Commissioners at Wa and Bole who have been themselves the operators. But for this no telegraphic news would have been received at Wa.

"A Senior Supervisor, Posts and Telegraphs Department, came through Tumu and Wa and expressed surprise at the amount of work he found in the Post Office in Wa.

"It has not, however, ripened into further financial aid or the appointment of a Postmaster."

There is telephonic connection between Tamale and Gambaga in the North-Eastern Province.

Letters are received and despatched from all stations, and the Commissioners have stamps for sale.

Telegrams were received and despatched at Tamale during the year, as compared with 1913, as follows :—

				RECEIVED.		DESPATCHED.	
				1913	1914	1913	1914
Official	..	..	..	2,359	3,055	2,201	2,853
Private	..	..	..	1,030	1,086	1,266	1,886

The following statistics show the business done in the Post Office at Tamale :—

	1913.	1914.
Stamps sold	£189 9 3	£190 8 11
Postal Orders Commission ..	13 10 0	9 14 1
Money Orders Commission ..	22 0 9	2 19 7
Registration of Telegraph address	—	1 1 0
Postal Orders sold	943 7 0	647 7 0
Poundage on same	13 10 0	9 14 1
Money Orders issued	217 15 1	265 4 9
Commission on same	2 0 9	2 19 9
	£1,381 12 10	£1,129 9 2

Mails despatched south 133 bags and 51 parcels mails.

Mails despatched north 208 bags and 34 parcels mails.

Mails received south 577 bags and 53 parcels mails.

Mails received north 150 bags and 40 parcels mails.

There are eight permanent postmen stationed at Tamale. Six of these are engaged in running north to Nasia and Gambaga and two to Kunkori on the Wa road.

There has been considerable increase in the business done at Salaga Post Office. Postal Orders were sold to value of £264 4s. 3d., as compared with £206 7s. 10d. last year, and stamps sold were £64 15s. 7d., as against £22 2s. 1d. in 1913.

Sixteen regular postmen were employed at Salaga up to July, when it was decided to run one mail only a week up to the Northern Territories, and the number was then reduced to eight.

This number is by no means sufficient, as occasionally as many as 12 to 15 bags arrive at Salaga at one time. It is therefore necessary to have local carriers, and of these 483 have been employed during the year.

879 bags of mails were received at Salaga Post Office during the year, as compared with 977 in 1913.

Yeji.

Postal Orders were sold at this office amounting to £210 and stamps to £57 11s. 11d.

IX.—RELIGION.

The Father Superior of the Roman Catholic Mission (Pères Blancs) established at Navarro in 1906, informs me that the Fathers have baptised and received into the Church 137 natives. Natives who wish to become Christians undergo a four years' probationary course before they are baptised. During this period they receive religious instruction, in which they are examined periodically. One hundred and fifty natives are candidates for baptism and between three and four hundred attend, more or less regularly, the classes which the Fathers hold daily, in one or other section of Navarro township.

The Wesleyan Methodist Mission was given permission to establish itself in the Northern Territories in 1912.

The General Superintendent of the Gold Coast District stated that it is not their intention to undertake any work elsewhere in the Protectorate than at Tamale for some years to come, or until the construction of a mission station has been completed. Nothing has been done in the latter direction during the year and the Government school house is lent to the resident Missionary for services on Sundays. A number of the Government school boys obtained permission from their parents to receive religious instruction from the Missionary.

The relative number of Christians, Mohammedans, and Pagans in the Northern Territories, as shown in the Census returns for 1911, were as follows :—

Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans.
133.	42,598.	319,075.

Mohammedanism would appear to make little, if any progress in this Dependency, and is, in the case of many of those who profess its tenets, of a debased form, and more than tainted with the prevailing paganism. The bulk of the Mohammedan population is to be found in the Southern Province.

Larabanga, in the Bole District, is a stronghold of Mohammedans, and it is the proud boast of the Chief and Imam that not a single pagan resides in the town. The latter carefully guards an ancient copy of the Koran, bound in several volumes, which is stated to have been the property of the Mohammedan founder of Larabanga, who came from Mecca, having left his Koran behind. After many days of prayer and fasting, the Koran was miraculously restored to him at Larabanga, and has been revered by succeeding Imams ever since.

The chief centres of Mohammedanism are, in the Southern Province, Tamale and its surrounding villages, Salaga, Bole, and Larabanga ; in the North-Eastern Province Gambaga, Wale-Wale, and Bawku ; in the North-Western Province Wa, Gurupisi, Uasa, and Wahabu.

A Mohammedan priest resident at Navarro, in the North-Eastern Province, is reported to have made no headway at all, and has so far not succeeded in making a single convert.

Although the pagan portion of the population show no great desire, as a whole, to abandon their form of belief, they exhibit no sort of resentment towards the members of other denominations.

The belief of the heathen portion of the native community is a primordial animism. Each town or village has its own "fetish" which is usually to be found at the entrance to the Chief's or priest's compound, and takes various forms, such as a conical pile of earth, or a three-pronged stick, supporting a pot in which grows a shrub, grass, or an aquatic plant.

These represent the "fetish" itself, which is recognised in many forms, as of lightning, a lion, hawk, crocodile, snake, tortoise, or other animal, bird, or reptile.

Such "fetishes" guard and watch over the general welfare of the villages and its inhabitants and communicate with the latter through their priests. When offended these "fetishes" are propitiated by the sacrifice of sheep or goats, and of black cats or dogs.

Every family has its own "fetish," usually a conical heap of clay with a small pot sunk in its apex. It is to be seen outside every compound, and is consulted on all matters relating to the welfare of the family. Sacrifices are made to it by killing fowls over it, and allowing their blood to run into the pot and over its support, the birds' feathers then being stuck on before the blood congeals.

The "lightning fetish" is the most dreaded, and is universally invoked to revenge theft. No native would dream of attempting to arrest a conflagration caused by lightning. The veneration of ancestors also forms part of the native religious belief, and their shades are consulted through the family fetish.

X—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Political.

The news that war had been declared between England and Germany was received at Tamale on the 5th August.

Yendi, the capital of Togoland Dagomba and formerly that of the whole of Dagomba, was occupied without opposition by a small detachment of the Northern Territories Constabulary under their Commandant, Major Marlow, on the 14th August, and I entered Yendi on the 22nd and received the submission of all the Togoland Dagomba Chiefs amid scenes of great enthusiasm. Since that date a Commissioner and a detachment of the Northern Territories Constabulary have been stationed there.

Sansanne-Mangu was occupied without opposition by our Allies, the French, on the 15th August, as were Sekode and Bassari by detachments from Dahomey.

Togoland surrendered unconditionally to the Allies on the 26th August.

Our relations with the French have been of the most cordial description, and visits were exchanged between the French residents at Leo and Gawa and our Commissioners at Tumu and Lorha.

Captain Mackesy, R.E., of the Gold Coast Survey, accompanied by Captain Wheeler, District Commissioner, motor-cycled to Wagadugu and met with a hearty reception from the French Administrator and his colleagues.

Administration.

The Chief Commissioner administered the Protectorate throughout the year. I have nothing to add to what I wrote in last year's Report, which was as follows :—

“The year under review has been eminently satisfactory from an administrative and from every other point of view, and I believe that the natives are realizing fully the benefits they now enjoy under the existing administration.

“Their one fear appears to be that of direct taxation, in lieu of which they willingly provide all the labour that is required of them for upkeep of roads, rest houses, etc. The Chiefs enter into friendly competition with each other as to which of them has the best built European rest-houses in his towns and villages, so much so that more than one Chief has asked for permission to build such in villages remote from the main roads.”

Native Affairs.

The Commissioner of the Southern Province reports as follows :—

“The year has been a quiet one.

“The outbreak of the European war in August and the expedition against Togoland caused very little stir and no disturbance. The natives seemed to have no anxiety at all and had full confidence in our being able to protect them.

"The Chiefs gave willingly all the assistance asked of them in carriers, etc.

"On the outbreak of war with Turkey meetings were held of all the Mohammedan communities and the causes leading up to the war explained. All expressed their confidence in our administration.

"The people are law abiding and a great majority of the offenders brought before the court are itinerant natives or ex-prisoners. In the Salaga District the death of Darimanu, Chief of Tuluwe, is much to be regretted. He was one of the strongest and most reliable Chiefs in the District.

"The people contributed generously to the Gold Coast Imperial War Fund."

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province writes :—

"The Chief Commissioner arrived in the Province on the 14th June and left it, after a tour of inspection, partly off the beaten tracks of previous inspections, on the 9th July. Enthusiastic crowds welcomed him and sang choruses, generally somewhat like nursery rhymes.

"Of first importance was the great loyalty and generosity shown by the Chiefs and people in their ready response to an appeal from their brother Chiefs in the Colony to subscribe to the Gold Coast Imperial War Fund.

"Compared to the Chiefs in the Colony and Ashanti the Chiefs in this Province are extremely poor men, and, though their loyalty was undoubted by those who knew them, their generous donations came as a surprise to all. They stand as marks of their appreciation of English methods of administration and have shown that their expressions of loyalty, made when they were informed of the outbreak of war, were no mere lip service.

"Further admiration for their generosity must be felt when it is remembered that many of the Chiefs could count the number of white men they have seen on their fingers, that they know nothing of the causes that led to the outbreak of war, and that it is not a decade since this country was occupied by us, and only eight years since Civil administration was introduced.

"Such actions increase administrative responsibilities by adding obligations to them.

"During the year there have been no quarrels among the Chiefs, and their relations to the Government and between themselves remain very satisfactory.

"The year has not passed without one quarrel, in which arrows were used, in the Dagarti country, namely, at Dorkho, which has been fully reported on.

"During the Chief Commissioner's tour of inspection the Grunshi Chiefs at Tumu agreed to accept the Paramountcy of the King of Wa, who now becomes the Paramount Chief over all others in the Province.

"Although he is getting somewhat infirm he is a most loyal adherent to the Administration and is ready and able to assert his authority when necessary. In this he is backed up by the somewhat strong and influential Mohammedan part of the community who, though they have their own Chief, recognise the King of Wa as Paramount in spite of his being a Pagan."

The Commissioner North-Eastern Province states :—

"Relations between Chiefs and Government have been quite satisfactory. No advantage seems to have been taken in any way of the withdrawal of the administrative power from Bawku, or the Military company from Zouaragu at the outbreak of war. At the latter place, some of the young men are said to have got a little bit uppish, but it was nothing serious, and was in no way connected with the Chiefs and elders.

"All circumstances considered, I think it may be said that relations between Chiefs and Government have improved even since 1913."

I quote the following from the Bawku report :—

“ The resources of the Chiefs were placed at the disposal of the Government, and there is no doubt that there was some disappointment that there was no occasion for them to give more material aid to the British arms.

“ The Chief of Bawku received the thanks of the Officer Commanding a French column in north Togoland for the prompt and willing manner in which he assisted the progress of the column by supplying food and labour.”

I append a note by Captain H. C. Wheeler, who administered this Province during the greater part of the year :—

“ Marked progress has been shown in the position of the Paramount Chiefs. Though of recent revival this system may be said to be firmly established.

“ The sums subscribed by the Chiefs and people to the Gold Coast Imperial War Fund reached a total of £1,826 *ls. 3d.* and the spontaneity with which the contributions were brought in evidenced a wish on the part of natives of all classes to identify themselves with the movement and thus to demonstrate their loyalty to the Government.

“ On the outbreak of war with Turkey meetings were held everywhere and the situation carefully explained to the assemblies. Our French neighbours have been much troubled since then by wandering Mallams who preached a ‘ Jihad ’ and announced the early arrival of a Mahdi who would drive the white men from the country. I believe that in some cases they were joined by the local natives, but during the year under review not a single fanatical Mohammedan ventured to preach sedition in this Protectorate.”

Roads.

The Provincial Commissioners report on the roads of their respective Provinces as follows :—

Southern Province.

“ *Tamale.*—“ Tamale-Karaga road work has been devoted to this road and 30 miles have now been constructed and ten miles cleared.

“ Tamale—Nasia road. Four miles were re-formed and the road has been cleaned.

“ Tamale—Port—Daboya road. 33 miles of this road were cleared of weeds and stumps. Seven miles have been constructed from Port Tamale towards Kito.

“ Other roads have been cleared of grass, etc.

“ *Salaga.*—The road between Salaga and Dakar Ferry was completed in September.

“ Owing to the scarcity of labour and the great demand for men for transport purposes it was found impossible to do anything to the Salaga-Tamale road.

“ The road between Makongo and Yeji under the supervision of Mr. Whittall was completed in October.

“ Some bridging work has been carried on near Maliki Zongo.

“ *Yeji.*—Fifteen miles of ditched road 20 feet wide has been constructed during the year between Yeji and Prang at an average cost of about £12 per mile. This road will be suitable for light motor traffic.

“ A new cutting four and a half miles long has also been made and partly stumped from the Pru River to the Prang-Attabubu tribal boundary.

“ *Bole.*—All roads in the District have been cleared and the bridges between Bole and Banda have been repaired.”

North-Western Province.

"A new road from Wa to Tumu which is some nine miles shorter than the old one, has been made.

"This road was ditched, but the ditches are not sufficiently large to be at all permanent and it is questionable if the cutting of small ditches which make a very pretty road when freshly cut, but get filled up with the first heavy rains, is worth the labour expended on making them.

"In the Lorha District the Chiefs of Giripa and Tugo made good roads on their own initiative to Babile. This is very encouraging.

"In the Tumu District a new road from Du to Santijan was cut."

North-Eastern Province.

"Roads throughout the Province have been well maintained. The widening to 20 feet of the direct Navarro-Tamale road was commenced from the Volta northwards at beginning of December, and by the end of the year had already made considerable progress.

"A considerable amount of work was also put in on the Navarro-Zouaragu road, which was re-made, raised, and bridged for about two miles out of Navarro by Captain Wheeler.

Rest-Houses.

"Excellent rest-houses to the number of 237 have been built and maintained by the Chiefs of all the more important villages in the Protectorate.

"They are generally of the round-house type, with conical thatched roof, and stand in large compounds often surrounded by thick 'swish' walls."

Ferries.

The Commissioner of the Southern Province reports as follows under this head :—

"The tolls for the year at Yeji ferry amounted to £1,659 as against £1,958 2s. 3d. for 1913—a decrease in the takings of £298 2s. 3d.

"This falling off occurred during the last quarter of the year, and is to be attributed to the shortage of water and food on the road down from the north to the decreased markets at Kumasi due to the war, and to the fact that since the subjugation of Togoland and the doing away of tolls in that Colony trade that formerly reached the wealthy markets of the Eastern Province of the Colony via Yeji, Attabubu, and Mampong, now goes direct and by better roads through Togoland via Senchi to Kpong, Akuse, Somanya, etc.

"The two steel pontoons at the ferry continue to do good service. They are light, easy to manage, and have a big carrying capacity.

"The ferry at the Pru River was not used as the river was fordable throughout the year.

"There are two sections of steel pontoons on the Black Volta north of Kintampo; also half a section on the Yamalga river and Nabogo river.

"The ferry at Dakar river mouth has been working successfully this year and has been taken over by the Preventive Service.

"The number of persons crossing this ferry during the year was 5,338, also 15,207 animals and 1,284 loads."

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province states:—

“ There are two large ferries in Lorha District at Bayi and Dapola, which are used by the natives to attend markets on the French side of the river.

“ Other ferries in this Province are worked by the local Chiefs.”

In the North-Eastern Province 12 canoes have been built and put upon the various ferries that had not been hitherto supplied. The use of these will only be found necessary during a short period of the year, but they supply a much felt want.

Transport.

The unsatisfactory transport service to the Northern Territories was replaced in June, 1913, by a new system, whereby stores were despatched by motor lorries to Ejura from Kumasi, thence to Yeji by carriers transport and by the Volta River in canoe to Tamale-Port (Yapei).

The Transport Officer is satisfied with the River Transport Service but not so the officers stationed in this Protectorate, who have suffered considerably from losses of their stores due to breakages, to damage caused by water permeating the boxes and their contents, and to looting by carriers. Nor can it be said that the delivery of stores from Kumasi to Tamale by the River Service has been expedited in any way.

The Commissioner of the Southern Province reports:—

“ *Tamale.*—Up to the end of the first quarter of the year a permanent gang of 48 carriers and two headmen were employed in going to Yapei for loads. This has now been discontinued and gangs are employed who do two journeys to Yapei and then they go back to their homes. 2,356 loads have been shifted from Yapei to Tamale and, in addition to this, 1,742 boys were employed in other transport work, such as conveying officials and their loads, etc.

“ The pay of these carriers is 6*d.* a day whilst carrying loads, and 3*d.* a day when without loads.

“ *Salaga.*—The demand for carriers is not so large in this District since the River Transport was started. Still, considering the population of the District it is considerable. 906 boys were supplied for specie escorts, Public Works Department loads, etc., and the Chiefs complain that their boys are leaving for Kumasi on account of these demands for carriers.

“ The Kumasi locals are as unsatisfactory as ever, as some loads of cement which left Kumasi on 25th June, 1914, had not reached Salaga by the end of the year. These carriers are supplied to the Transport Department by a woman named Mariama in Kumasi.

“ *Yeji.*—6,131 loads were received at Yeji from all sources, of which 3,900 were conveyed by permanent carriers and 2,231 by loads. 2,806 loads were transported to Yapei by river at an average cost, including the purchase of canoes, of about 3*s.* 8*d.* a load.

“ 82 canoes were despatched to Yapei, the average time taken there and back being 13 days.

“ *Bole.*—The calls for carriers has been fairly heavy, but the work has been distributed as evenly as possible.

“ The supply of local transport in the North-Western and North-Eastern Provinces becomes more and more difficult to obtain, and there is a steadily growing tendency among the natives, especially those who

have visited Kumasi and who know that carriers in the Colony and Ashanti are paid at the rate of 1s. 3d. per diem, to look askance at the pay offered to them in this Protectorate—6d. per diem.

“This, in conjunction with the increased price of foodstuffs, is creating a situation of some difficulty.”

Northern Territories Topographical Survey.

The Topographical Survey of this Protectorate was carried on rapidly up to the date of the declaration of war, when the Department was closed down. Captain P. J. Mackesy, R.E., Deputy Director of Surveys, moved his Headquarters from Tamale to Navarro in the North-Eastern Province and, I believe, had nearly completed the Survey of that Province when the war put a stop to all further work.

The Officers were then employed as Intelligence officers to the mobile columns, and the Non-Commissioned Officers were also attached to these.

Entomological Research Commission.

Dr. J. J. Simpson, of the West African Entomological Research Committee (Colonial Office), continued his work in the Northern Territories, and was for some months in the Bole District and at Tamale Port. He was unfortunately invalided in September.

Preventive Service.

At the commencement of the year the Customs Preventive Service had eight stations along the Eastern Frontier of the Northern Territories at which goods are imported and duties collected. They are situated at Kunkwa, Dogankede, Krupe, Kpabia, Sung, Nyanson, Gambaga, and Bawku.

The two last named stations were closed down at the commencement of the war, but towards the close of the year a clerk was placed at Bawku.

The District Supervisor estimates the value of imports during the year at £48,911 as compared with £422,004 in 1913.

The exports of kola and salt over the frontier are referred to under Head II.—“Trade, Agriculture, and Industries.”

8,392 loads of cloth passed through Salaga from the Colony and Ashanti, as compared with 5,737 in 1913.

Immigration and Emigration.

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province reports as follows:

“As far as immigration is concerned there appear to be Fulanis settling in the country. These people look after the herds of cattle when the Chiefs allow them to. Beyond these few families there cannot be said to be any immigration.

"There is a migratory period every year towards Kumasi commencing about the end of October. A considerable number of boys then go down to find work, but most of these find their way back to their country in course of time, many returning about April or May.

"Natives in increasing numbers also proceed to Ashanti from the North-Eastern Province, but usually return in time to make their farms.

"I met many such gangs on their way to Kumasi when on tour. These gangs were usually conducted by a native who had been to Kumasi before, and their members each carried with them a scanty supply of food and very little else."

Labour.

Unskilled labour at the rate of 6*d.* per diem is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain; which cannot be wondered at when so many of our natives have realized that by going to Kumasi they can readily obtain from 1*s.* to 2*s.* per diem for their services. All skilled labour is obtained from the Colony or Ashanti at daily rates of from 1*s.* 9*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*

There are no openings at present for white labour.

Climate.

The climate of the Northern Territories is unhealthy, and is particularly trying during the months of January, February, March, and April, when the intense heat has an enervating effect alike on Europeans and natives.

Miscellaneous.

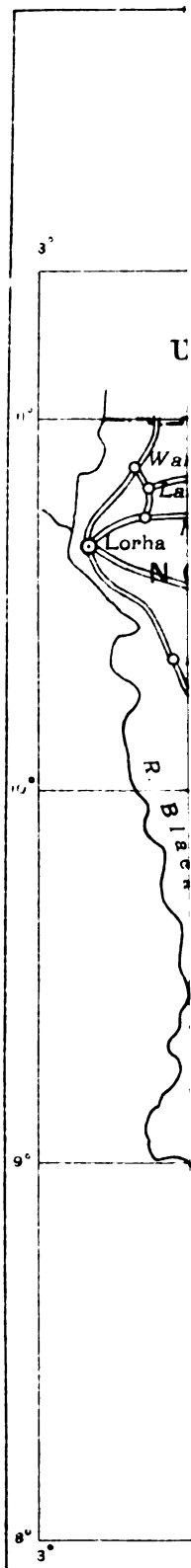
His Excellency the Governor, Sir Hugh Clifford, accompanied by H. H. the Duke of Mecklenburg, (then Governor of Togoland), the Chief Commissioner of Ashanti, and their respective staffs, arrived at Yeji on the 27th January, where I received them, and accompanied them by canoe on the 29th to Kete Kratchi, where His Excellency and party were the guests of the Governor of Togoland on the night of the 30th January and until the evening of the next day, when we returned to British Kratchi.

The Protectorate suffered a loss in the retirement during the year of Major R. A. Irvine, C.M.G., and Captain E. O. Warden. The former officer had seen over 22 years' service in the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories.

A record of tribal marks and marks of adornment in use among the natives of the Northern Territories has been prepared, and was carefully checked during the year.

C. H. ARMITAGE,

Chief Commissioner, Northern Territories.



C.O. N° 31.

"There is a migratory period every year towards Kumasi commencing about the end of October. A considerable number of boys then go down to find work, but most of these find their way back to their country in course of time, many returning about April or May.

"Natives in increasing numbers also proceed to Ashanti from the North-Eastern Province, but usually return in time to make their farms.

"I met many such gangs on their way to Kumasi when on tour. These gangs were usually conducted by a native who had been to Kumasi before, and their members each carried with them a scanty supply of food and very little else."

Labour.

Unskilled labour at the rate of 6*d.* per diem is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain; which cannot be wondered at when so many of our natives have realized that by going to Kumasi they can readily obtain from 1*s.* to 2*s.* per diem for their services. All skilled labour is obtained from the Colony or Ashanti at daily rates of from 1*s.* 9*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*

There are no openings at present for white labour.

Climate.

The climate of the Northern Territories is unhealthy, and is particularly trying during the months of January, February, March, and April, when the intense heat has an enervating effect alike on Europeans and natives.

Miscellaneous.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Hugh Clifford, accompanied by H. H. the Duke of Mecklenburg, (then Governor of Togoland), the Chief Commissioner of Ashanti, and their respective staffs, arrived at Yeji on the 27th January, where I received them, and accompanied them by canoe on the 29th to Kete Kratchi, where His Excellency and party were the guests of the Governor of Togoland on the night of the 30th January and until the evening of the next day, when we returned to British Kratchi.

The Protectorate suffered a loss in the retirement during the year of Major R. A. Irvine, C.M.G., and Captain E. O. Warden. The former officer had seen over 22 years' service in the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories.

A record of tribal marks and marks of adornment in use among the natives of the Northern Territories has been prepared, and was carefully checked during the year.

C. H. ARMITAGE,

Chief Commissioner, Northern Territories.

Kumasi commencing
boys then go down
to their country in

ti from the North-
their farms.

en on tour. These
to Kumasi before,
ly of food and very

oming increasingly
en so many of our
can readily obtain
skilled labour is
s of from 1s. 9d. to

r.

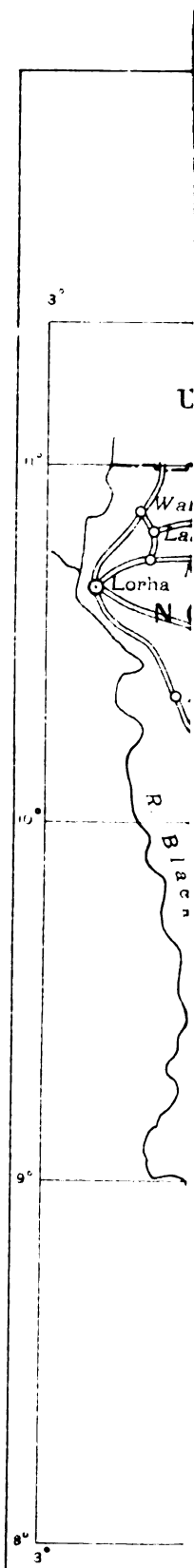
healthy, and is par-
ticularly, March, and
alike on Europeans

d, accompanied by
r of Togoland), the
ve staffs, arrived at
n, and accompanied
His Excellency and
on the night of the
y, when we returned

ent during the year
arden The former
y, Ashanti, and the

nt in use among the
ed, and was carefully

MITAGE,
orthern Territories.



COLONIAL

The following recent
Colonial Possessions have
the sources indicated on

No.	Colony.
827	British Honduras
828	Colonial Survey
829	Tongan Islands
830	Swaziland ..
831	Uganda ..
832	Nyasaland ..
833	British Guiana
834	Imperial Bureau
835	St. Vincent
836	St. Lucia ..
837	Somaliland
838	Straits Settlements
839	Cayman Islands
840	East Africa Protectorate
841	Leeward Islands
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands
843	Zanzibar ..
844	Turks and Caicos
845	Weihaiwei ..
846	Seychelles ..
847	St. Helena
848	Fiji
849	Bahamas ..
850	Gibraltar ..
851	Sierra Leone
852	Grenada ..
853	Bermuda ..
854	Malta ..
855	Ceylon ..
856	Hong Kong
857	Bechuanaland
858	Basutoland
859	Gold Coast
860	Jamaica ..
861	Gambia ..
862	Straits Settlements

No.	Colony, &c.
79	Northern Nigeria
80	Nyasaland ..
81	Southern Nigeria
82	Imperial Institute
83	Southern Nigeria
84	West Indies ..
85	Southern Nigeria
86	Southern Nigeria
87	Ceylon
88	Imperial Institute
89	Southern Nigeria
90	St. Vincent

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
827	British Honduras	1913
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913-1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	1914
859	Gold Coast	"
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

L O N D O N :
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.
1913.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.



No. 864.

ASHANTI.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 812.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1915.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LIMITED, THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries or
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

Dup. U. of C.
L. B.

[Cd. 7622-55] Price 3d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES :—	
Imports	5
Exports	6
Agriculture	9
Mines	11
Manufactures	11
Fisheries	11
LEGISLATION	11
EDUCATION	12
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS :—	
Hospitals	13
Savings Banks	14
JUDICIAL STATISTICS :—	
Police	14
Prisons	14
Criminal Cases	16
VITAL STATISTICS :—	
Population	17
Public Health	18
Sanitation and Climate	19
POST AND TELEGRAPHS	20
RELIGION	21
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS :—	
Native Affairs	22
Roads	24
Railway	28
Forestry	28
Transport Department	29
Veterinary Department	29
Kumasi Town	29
Sanitation of Town	31
Public Works	32
Wages	33
Prospects of Future Trade	33
Suitability for Europeans	34
SKETCH MAP.	

No. 864.

ASHANTI.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 812.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Accra,
30th August, 1915.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith copies of the report of the Chief Commissioner, Ashanti, for the year 1914.

2. In spite of the war the year has been one of continued trade prosperity, and there has been a marked advance in education, sanitation, and road construction.

3. The relations between the Chiefs and Government and with each other were very satisfactory throughout the year, and I have pleasure in bringing to your notice the practical loyalty exhibited by the Chiefs generally, and those of Kumawu, Agogo, and Kwaman in particular, at the time of the outbreak of war—a significant testimony to the wise administration of Ashanti by the Chief Commissioner, Mr. F. C. Fuller, C.M.G. I may also draw attention to the generous contributions of the Chiefs and people to the Imperial War Fund—a tangible expression of loyalty which they are now following up by the gift of an aeroplane to the Overseas Club.

As Mr. Fuller remarks, “Not the least gratifying factor in the attitude of the natives lies in the implicit trust displayed in the ultimate victory of the British Government—a trust engendered as much by conviction as it is by sentiment.”

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

A. R. SLATER,

Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,

&c., &c., &c.

FINANCIAL.

The total Revenue collected in Ashanti during 1914 was £50,095, as against £49,882 in 1913, and £50,265 in 1912.

Of the £50,095, £20,759 was actually collected in Ashanti. The balance represents royalties paid by mines situated in Ashanti and sale of stamps, which are now adjusted at Accra.

The Revenue showed an increase of £213.

Increases to note occurred on the following items :—

	£	s.	d.
(i) Spirit Licences	220	0	0
(ii) Court fines and fees	526	17	5
(iii) Slaughter house and Cattle fees ..	175	19	6
(iv) Rents from Government lands ..	144	14	1
(v) Prison labour	619	12	0
(vi) Miscellaneous	371	8	11

Item (v) is explained by the fact that all prison labour is now credited to Prison Revenue; formerly only actual cash payments were so credited.

Decreases to note were shown under :—

	£	s.	d.
(i) Arms and Ammunition licences ..	143	8	0
(ii) Sale of Stamps	75	5	11
(iii) Mining royalties.. .. .	1,492	2	8

Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years were as follows :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1910	37,621	117,398
1911	50,319	146,317
1912	50,265	148,685
1913	49,882	162,159
1914	50,095	188,123

In the Expenditure for 1914 are included :—

Public Works Extraordinary, £42,243 ;

while the Revenue does not include :—

- i. Duties on Imports.
- ii. Proportion of profit on the Ashanti portion of the Railway.
- iii. Registration, Survey and Stamp fees.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

Imports into Ashanti amounted to the gross value of £885,529, as compared with £889,271 in 1913 and £745,000 in 1912.

This sum is made up as follows :—

Merchandise imported by railway	£618,529
Cattle	200,000
Sheep and goats	30,000
Dawa-dawa	14,500
Shea butter	7,500
Miscellaneous, including dried fish, hides, etc.	15,000
	<hr/>
	£885,529
	<hr/>

Goods imported over the railway amounted to a gross tonnage of 18,523, as against 22,406 in 1913.

Wines and Spirits.—All imported by railway, amounted to 1,895 tons, an increase of 115 tons on the previous year.

Dried and Smoked Fish.—The importation of native cured fish by railway showed a considerable decrease, viz :—588 tons as against 989 in 1913.

All information tends to point to the fact that 1914 was a bad fishing year.

The main roads used by cattle drovers are the Kumasi-Ejura, Kumasi-Kintampo, and Kumasi-Tekiman—all of them important trade roads.

Sheep and Goats.—91,522 head entered Ashanti from the Northern Territories, but considerably less than usual from the West.

4,641 were slaughtered in Kumasi during the year as against 4,319 in 1913, showing that the local supply in no way suffered.

Dawa-dawa and Shea Butter.—A large decrease in the importation of these articles is to be recorded—5,773 loads of dawa-dawa were imported as against 10,607 in 1913.

Only 7,458 loads of shea butter came down against 13,489 in the previous year.

Miscellaneous.—A large amount of miscellaneous articles such as native cloths, skins, fowls, native yarns, hats, etc., are imported into Ashanti from northern countries—the value of which is roughly estimated at £15,000.

EXPORTS.

These consisted principally of gold, cocoa, kola, rubber, cattle, sheep, hides, and snails.

Their value is estimated as follows :—

Gold	..	..	..	..	..	£481,270
Cocoa	..	..	..	..	..	350,000
Kola	..	..	..	..	..	180,000
Rubber	..	..	..	..	..	20,000
Cattle and Sheep			..	..	..	50,000
Hides	..	..	..	..	..	25,000
Snails	..	..	..	..	..	50,000
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	14,000
Total	..					£1,170,270

Gold.

113,286 ounces of gold valued at £481,270 were exported during the year, as against 111,838 ounces valued at £475,089 in the previous year.

Further details will be found under the heading “ Mines.”

Cocoa.

11,663 tons of cocoa were exported by rail, an increase of 2,970 tons, or of nearly 35 per cent. on the previous year. The estimated value to the native producers could not have fallen far short of £350,000 in spite of the decrease in prices paid owing to the war.

Railway freight to the value of £29,812 was paid in the year.

Kola.

2,303 tons of kola were exported by rail as against 1,674 in 1913—an increase of about 40 per cent.—most of it for the Lagos market. Freight amounting to £6,038 was paid on it.

55,690 loads were carried north from Ejura—but this is only one of the northern trade roads.

The large increase was due to the excellent crop of fruit.

It can safely be reckoned that 180,000 loads of kola nuts were exported from Ashanti at an average value of £1 a load.

Rubber.

The export of rubber fell to 275 tons for the year, as against 594 tons in 1913, valued at £20,000.

Cattle.

4,111 head of cattle were exported by rail during the year against 3,634 in 1913, besides 1,694 sheep and goats. This trade, including the animals exported overland, is estimated at £50,000.

Hides.

A total of 370 tons was exported in the year, as against 323 in 1913.

This is a growing industry and is steadily assuming important proportions.

The value of the 1914 export is estimated at £25,000.

Snails.

The exportation of snails is likewise an increasing trade from Ashanti. The snails are shelled, skewered on sticks and smoke-dried. When thus prepared they are considered a great delicacy by the natives. The best quality come from Wam and the Ahafo forest in Western Ashanti. They are brought to Kumasi whence they find their way all over the Colony.

No estimate has hitherto been compiled and the figures at disposal are scanty but they prove what an important item this industry has become.

Sheep, Goat, and Monkey Skins.

These form part of the item "Miscellaneous," but deserve special mention as articles of increasing importance.

Hides.

It is practically impossible to ascertain the quantity of hides imported into Ashanti, but the greater percentage of the amount exported can be said to have been introduced from the north and north west.

Cattle.

The number of cattle entering Ashanti from the Northern Territories shows a slight increase on 1913, but the estimate of 100,000 head for that year has been adhered to owing to the cessation of Bonduku (French territory) as a centre of supply.

14,674 cattle entered Kumasi, an increase of 552 on 1913. Of these, 4,793 were slaughtered in Kumasi against 4,681 in 1913; 4,111 were sent down by rail—543 to Obuasi and 3,568 to the Colony.

The Ashantis are fast becoming regular meat eaters and fresh meat can now be procured daily in every village of importance.

It is reckoned that 50,000 head of cattle were sold or slaughtered in Ashanti during the year, representing a minimum value of £200,000.

Bank of British West Africa.

The Manager reports as follows :—

“The business of the Bank continues to make satisfactory progress, indicating the increasing prosperity of Ashanti and its inhabitants and a greater confidence in the Bank.

“Whilst there is an increase in the number of native depositors, there are not as many as one expects or could wish for, taking into consideration the general prosperity and the amount of money flowing into the country in payment for produce, etc.

“The export of kolas by the Hausa population continues to increase in a satisfactory manner. The safety of remittances sent through the Bank for financing these people is much appreciated. There is also a satisfactory increase in the exportation of cocoa grown in Ashanti, but the low prices ruling owing to the war, caused less money to be in circulation during the latter half of the year.

“Trade was good on the whole, but the falling off in imports during the latter half of the year, due to the dislocation of the steamship services, caused some falling off in receipts, petty traders in particular suffering owing to their not being able to import cheap goods from Germany as heretofore.

“The cattle trade suffered somewhat during the early months of the war, as the Bank was unable to maintain a regular supply of French coin and gold, required by the Hausa cattle traders, but this was soon remedied and the trade has since assumed normal proportions.”

The Commissioner of the Western Province reports :—

“Owing to French restrictions on kola and the consequent injury to the Bonduku market, fewer cattle passed through Sunyani than in former years, the Bonduku market being the source of supply for this locality.”

A healthy and encouraging sign of the general improvement in trade is the rapid spread of small branch factories on the main trade roads radiating from Kumasi. Shops can now be found in villages that were scarcely known a few years ago, except to the administrative staff.

The Ashantis welcome these branches. They pander both to their pride and convenience and enable them to dispose of their produce locally at prices lower by the transport charges only than those obtainable in Kumasi.

The most striking and encouraging feature of the year's trade was that an increase was shown in both imports and exports in bulk as well as in value in spite of the five months of warfare in which the Empire was engaged.

Such testimony to the soundness of the Colony's commerce could only have been proved under conditions implying a complete command of the seas such as has been established by Great Britain.

AGRICULTURE.

Cocoa.

The cultivation of cocoa is spreading, if anything too rapidly, with the result that farmers often possess more area under cultivation than they can properly care for.

The export during 1914, 11,660 tons, was nearly 35 per cent. higher than that of 1913, mainly due to new trees coming into bearing. A marked improvement in the fermentation of the beans was noticeable, especially in the Ashanti-Akim District.

The cocoa crop is estimated at 35 per cent. greater than the previous year. Owing to the fall in prices due to the sudden dislocation of trade caused by the war, a certain percentage was not tendered for sale.

The average price before the war was about 20s. a load of 60 lb. This fell to about 12s. for the last five months of the year. The year's average has been taken at 15s. a load.

The question of transport assumed serious proportions—the fact being that the industry has outstripped the existing transport facilities of the country. Casks can only be rolled for limited distances outside Kumasi and motor lorries are practically restricted to one road. The great bulk of the cocoa has still to depend on head carriage for transport to the central market.

The new road branching off the main North Road of Ntonsu for a distance of ten miles to the village of Afiduaasi, proved of invaluable assistance to the merchants to cope with the congested state of affairs at the latter village.

During the year twelve representatives of various native divisions attended courses at the Agricultural Station in Kumasi in the cultivation and preparation of cocoa, after which they returned to their homes with the avowed object of disseminating as much as possible of the knowledge they had acquired.

Disease still prevails on the farms, particularly brown and white root fungus, thread blight, and canker. The trees have, further, to contend against insect pests such as “Sankonuabe Akate” and cocoa mosquitoes.

Rubber.

This trade is gradually decreasing to insignificant proportions, as long since foretold, only 275 tons having been exported during 1914, as against 594 in 1913.

The principal causes of this decrease must be attributed to (a) the original overtapping of trees, and (b) the great influx of cultivated or plantation rubber, against which the roughly coagulated latex of the *functumia elastica* is unable to compete.

Kola.

1914 proved an excellent year for this popular nut. 2,303 tons were exported by railway, against 1,674 in 1913. This does not mean, however, that this trade is increasing, but merely that the year's crop was extraordinarily good. The quantity exported must necessarily fluctuate with the year's crop.

Nearly all the above stated amount was exported to Lagos by steamer for transmission to the all absorbing markets of the hinterland.

This represents 85,978 loads of 60 lbs. weight and does not take into account the enormous quantity exported to the north by head transport.

Tobacco.

Tobacco is only grown for local consumption and in small quantities. It has not as yet figured as an article of export.

Shea Butter.

The collection of this fat for exportation has not yet been seriously attempted. The present transport facilities do not allow sufficient profit to encourage the industry.

Large tracts of country in the northern part of Ashanti are waiting to be exploited, but this can only be done when cheap transport is available.

Whatever trade exists in shea butter at present is intended for local consumption.

Agricultural Station.

Applications for Para rubber plants were not numerous, but, on the other hand, a large number of seeds were distributed free of charge—424,400, besides 115 lbs. of *funtumia* seeds.

The demand for cocoa plants increased—some 2,400 of these being distributed during the year. 4,085 lbs. of dry cocoa were sold for £50 17s. 6d.

The Para rubber section showed an increased girth of 3·4 inches per tree of those tapped on the herring bone, and of 4 inches of those tapped on the half spiral systems.

Among other tropical plants and fruits experimented with may be mentioned cinnamon, nutmeg, lemon grass, coffee, kola, sugar-cane, sisal and Mauritius hemp, cocaine, castor oil, guinea grains, ginger, groundnuts, and native corn.

Two courses for teachers were held as usual.

Rain fell on 97 days with a total of 46·61 inches for the year.

INDUSTRIES.

MINES.

During 1914, the amount of gold obtained by the mining and dredging companies in Ashanti was 113,286·23 oz. of fine gold, valued at £481,270, as compared with 111,838·42 oz. valued at £475,089 in 1913.

(a) *Mining.*

Name of Company.	Ounces of fine Gold recovered.	Value.		
		£	s.	d.
Ashanti Goldfields Corporation	105,240·30 ..	447,092	0	0

(b) *Dredging.*

Ashanti Rivers and Concessions	198·09 ..	841	0	0
Offin River Gold Estates, Limited	7,847·84 ..	33,337	0	0

Total	113,286·23	..	£481,270	0	0
-------	-------	------------	----	----------	---	---

The average amount of labour employed daily by the mining and dredging companies was :—

		Surface.	Under-ground.	Total.
Europeans	.. ..	80	44	124
Natives	.. ..	2,393	1,281	3,674
Total	.. ..	2,473	1,325	3,798

During the year work was carried out on the Miradani Concession by the Ashanti Rivers and Concessions, Limited.

MANUFACTURES.

Weaving, basket-making, pottery, and goldsmiths' work are common throughout Ashanti, but only for local requirements.

FISHERIES.

The only fish trade in Ashanti emanates from Lake Bosumtwo, otherwise known as the Sacred Lake, but this is practically all for local consumption.

The small lake fish are dried and smoked and are very popular as an article of diet among the Ashantis.

LEGISLATION.

Nine Ordinances were enacted during the year 1914.

EDUCATION.

The Government Primary School at Kumasi continued a hitherto unbroken record of prosperity.

A new building containing two class rooms was added and became available for the use of the pupils in October. There are now five buildings—four for use as class rooms and one as a workshop for instruction in woodwork.

The school accommodation still proved inadequate, however, a large number of children having been refused admission during the year on that account.

Agricultural and recreation grounds are attached to the school.

There was a marked increase in the average attendance, as the following table shows :—

Year.	Average No. on Roll.			Percentage attendance.	
1913	306	..	77·8		
1914	320	..	86·0		

Percentage of :—

Ashantis	52·9	against 49 in 1913.
Fantis.. ..	29·7	„ 34 „
Accras	6·0	„ 8 „
Miscellaneous ..	12·84	

A new Girls' School consisting of one building with two class rooms, was opened by His Excellency the Governor in the month of March. It commenced with 19 girls and ended up the year with 62, whose average attendance was 85 per cent.

Percentage of girls attending school :—

Fantis	51	per cent.
Ashantis	34	„
Accras	5	„
Miscellaneous ..	10	„

The Headmaster, Mr. Evans, was in charge of the school eight months of the year; the Principal Teacher, Mr. Muller, supervised it for the first four months.

The good discipline and high tone of the school were maintained.

Government School at Sunyani.—This School progressed satisfactorily. 78 pupils were on the books at the commencement and 83 at the close of the year, with an average daily attendance of 82·5 per cent.

These are the only Government Schools in Ashanti as yet.

MISSION SCHOOLS.

Basel Mission.—25 Elementary schools, with 760 pupils, as against 730 in 1913.

Wesleyan Mission.—11 day schools with 585 pupils, against eight schools with 526 pupils in 1913. Besides these there are 11 Sunday schools with an attendance of 1,122.

Catholic Mission.—Two schools with 222 pupils.

Church of England Mission.—One school, which started at the beginning of the year with seven pupils, had 181 pupils at the end of the year, with an average attendance of 100.

Zion Mission.—One Sunday school with an attendance of 76 pupils.

Education in Ashanti is so far only popular in the Central and Southern Provinces, where the natives can best realize the value of knowledge, owing to constant contact with Europeans and educated natives. Chiefs appear anxious for their sons to learn all they can at the schools available, so that their progeny may be in a position to compete with literate coast people and no longer remain at the mercy of alien clerks.

This remark does not apply, however, to the Chiefs in the more remote parts of Ashanti, where the natives are, generally speaking, averse from sending their children to school.

They appear to hold the view that an educated child is lost to the family and tribe owing to the foreign habits and modes of thought it may acquire at school. Ignorance and not ill-will is the cause of this unfortunate point of view.

In the Central Province, on the other hand, the general demand of the Chiefs is for more undenominational schools.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.*Hospitals.*

The only Government Hospital for Europeans in Ashanti is in Kumasi. Hospitals for natives are established at Sunyani, Obuasi, Kintampo, and Kumasi.

Two new wards and quarters for native nurses were added to the Kumasi Native Hospital.

At Sunyani a new hospital for natives was completed early in the year and a new out-patient building in December.

Infectious Diseases Hospitals are provided at Kumasi and Obuasi.

No Asylum exists in Ashanti. Violent cases are sent to the Accra Asylum.

Savings Banks.

Post Office Savings Banks are in operation at Kumasi and Obuasi.

<i>Kumasi.</i>	Number of Depositors ..	298.		
	Value of Deposits	£3,137	6s.	0d.
	—an increase of £397 on 1913.			
<i>Obuasi.</i>	Number of Depositors ..	65.		
	Value of Deposits	£2,238	1s.	0d.
	—an increase of £334 over 1913.			

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

The Police force in Ashanti on December 31st, 1914, numbered 127, as against 110 in 1913. The total authorised strength for Ashanti is 140. In addition, there are eight railway police stationed at Kumasi and Obuasi, whose duties are confined to the railway; and two mines police for the use of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation.

The efficiency, discipline, and general conduct of the police were satisfactory, though the first was slightly impaired by trained men having to be sent to Accra, owing to the outbreak of the war, and replaced by recruits.

During the year, 472 prosecutions were instituted by the police in Kumasi against 426 in 1913. In Obuasi, 382 prosecutions against 282 in 1913. The increase can be accounted for by the fact that more police were at the disposal of the Commissioners, who could, therefore, conduct investigations with greater facility and result.

The police were successful in breaking up an important gang of stealers and receivers of gold at Obuasi.

Crime is not on the increase, but more efficient police supervision accounts for more cases being brought to justice.

Prisons.

Kumasi.—The total number of convict prisoners admitted during the year was 327, including females, against 297 in 1913.

The number of debtor prisoners admitted was 122, viz :—96 males and 26 females. The number of untried prisoners was 81 males and two females.

The crimes committed were as follows :—

Murder	8
Manslaughter	11
Rape	7
Wounding	18
Robbery with violence	6
Burglary	6
Assault	29
Larceny and other offences	242

Offences against prison discipline were generally of a minor character with the exception of six cases in which flogging had to be resorted to.

The health of the prisoners was good. Admissions into the prison infirmary were 14—all for slight cases of illness, excepting four cases resulting in death.

There were no executions at the Kumasi Prison—all prisoners suffering the extreme penalty of the law being sent down to Sekondi for execution.

Expenditure for the year was as follows :—

				£	s.	d.
Permanent warders	..	..	..	822	7	7
Temporary warders	..	..	..	133	4	9
Prisoners' rations	..	..	..	374	5	6
Other charges	..	..	..	83	8	1
Total				£1,413	5	11

The nominal earnings of prisoners came to £1,493 10s. 0d., while the actual sum earned was £657 13s. 2d.

Prisoners were employed generally on sanitary work, carpentry, laundry, and basket-making.

There were 10 escapes during the year ; of these two were recaptured.

Eleven long-sentence prisoners were transferred to the Central Prison, Sekondi, as were also seven condemned prisoners, and 19 short sentence prisoners were sent to Obuasi prison.

The prison was in charge of a senior chief warder, with eight second class warders, seven third class warders, and one matron.

The prison was kept clean and in good order. Good discipline was maintained.

Obuasi.—The total number of prisoners committed was 255, viz :—

147	Convicts.
83	Untried.
25	Debtors.

The offences committed were stealing, forgery, defrauding, unlawful possession, wounding, and other offences.

Health of the prisoners was good. There were 11 admissions to the Colonial Hospital during the year. No deaths.

The Expenditure was as follows :—

				£	s.	d.
Pay of permanent warders	..	..	..	430	12	11
Pay of temporary warders	..	..	..	95	8	9
Prisoners' rations	..	..	..	270	3	4
Prison appliances	..	..	..	0	17	0
Total				£797	2	0

The nominal prison earnings show £638 3s. 7d. Actual sum paid into Government chest £202 19s. 7d.

There were four escapes during the year and seven recaptures. This refers to escapes of previous years as well as those of 1914.

The prison, which is a model of neatness and design, was well kept and the discipline was good.

Sunyani.—There were 172 admissions to the Sunyani prison during the year and 158 releases, with a daily average of 14·63.

The prison is situated within the Fort.

Kintampo.—52 prisoners were admitted during the year; 45 discharged or transferred.

Daily average, 11.

The Kintampo prison is a large and commodious building well suited for the purpose it serves.

Ejura.—The Ejura prison admitted 23 prisoners in the year.

There were 29 discharges and 5 transfers.

Daily average, 6·2.

Goaso.—A prison building was completed at this District Headquarters, but only in time to admit one or two prisoners before the end of the year.

Criminal Cases.

The following table gives a list of the criminal cases heard in the Courts of Ashanti and indicates the manner in which they were dealt with :—

Courts.	Cases heard.	Dis-charged.	Convicted.	Not pro-ceeded with	Committed for trial.
Chief Commissioner's	53	6	47	—	—
Commissioner, Central Province	7	—	7	—	—
District Commissioner, Central Province ..	106	22	78	—	6
Police Magistrate's ..	1,681	77	1,602	—	2
District Commissioner, Ejura	63	8	54	—	1
District Commissioner, Juaso	119	16	96	—	7
Commissioner, Southern Province	638	121	511	—	6
Commissioner, Western Province	243	81	159	—	3
District Commissioner, Wenchi	51	13	36	—	2
District Commissioner, Goaso	53	4	47	—	2
Commissioner, Northern Province	178	41	131	—	6
District Commissioner, British Kratchi ..	34	2	32	—	—
Totals ..	3,226	391	2,800	—	35

an increase of 588 over last year.

Serious crime was as follows :—

Murder	cases	8
Manslaughter	„	15
Attempt at murder	„	6
Burglary	„	6

1,980 civil cases, distributed as follows, were disposed of during the year—an increase of 311 over last year :—

Chief Commissioner's Court	52
Commissioner, Southern Province	452
Commissioner, Western Province	230
Commissioner, Northern Province	64
Police Magistrate's Court	613
District Commissioner, Central Province	213
District Commissioner, Juaso	128
District Commissioner, Ejura	84
District Commissioner, Goaso	42
District Commissioner, Wenchi	102
	<hr/>
	1,980

The “fees and fines” of Court during the year amounted to £3,541 19s. 8d. distributed as follows :—

Chief Commissioner's Court	£202	10	7
Commissioner, Southern Province	528	10	3
Commissioner, Western Province	333	17	11
Commissioner, Northern Province	72	3	6
Police Magistrate's Court	1,045	16	0
District Commissioner, Central Province	715	7	6
District Commissioner, Juaso	355	18	7
District Commissioner, Ejura	219	7	6
District Commissioner, Goaso	25	0	10
District Commissioner, Wenchi	43	7	0
	<hr/>		
	£3,541	19	8

an increase of £1,162 18s. 0d. over last year.

The Concessions Court held three sittings during the year.

Six Concessions were certified as valid and thirteen were abandoned.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Census of 1911 gave Ashanti a population of 287,814 made up as follows :—

Males ..	141,231	Adults ..	170,761
Females ..	146,583	Children ..	117,053
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	287,814		287,814

but this figure is considerably below the actual population of to-day, which is rapidly increasing.

The same census returned a native population for the town of Kumasi of 19,000.

The estimate of the Medical Officer of Health for December, 1914, was :—

Natives—(approximate)	..	24,000
Europeans	.. .. .	95
Syrians	.. .. .	58

The Native population is divided up into (roughly) :—

Ashantis	.. .. .	4,000
North Country people	.. .. .	12,000
Gold Coast Regiment and followers	..	2,000
Fantis and kindred tribes	.. .. .	4,000
Miscellaneous, including Europeans	..	2,000
		<hr/>
		24,000

The European residents during the year were :—

	Kumasi.	Other parts.	Total.
Official ..	106	53	159
Unofficial ..	113	194	307

There were 95 Europeans in Kumasi at the close of the year, 193 in the Southern Province, and eight in other parts.

The decrease in the white population from 120 in 1913 to 95 in 1914 was due to the war. Several Europeans usually stationed in Kumasi left on active service.

Public Health.

Europeans.—The general health amongst the Europeans was satisfactory. One European official died from appendicitis at Sunyani and four were invalided.

The death-rate was 6·28 per thousand and the invaliding rate 25·12.

Six European non-officials died and sixteen were invalided. Of this number the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation at Obuasi accounted for five deaths and 11 invalidings. The causes of death were :—Blackwater fever, 2; yellow fever, 1; hyperpyrexia, 1; heart failure, 1; strangulation, 1.

Death-rate ..	.. .. .	19·54 per thousand.
Invaliding-rate ..	.. .. .	52·11 „

There were 58 admissions into the European Hospital and 82 out-patients.

Among the 58 Syrians in Kumasi one died of acute nephritis during the year.

Natives.—Officials numbered 131.

There were no deaths and no invalidings.

There were 1,179 admissions to hospitals.

Dispensaries dealt with 10,750 cases.

Blackwater.—No cases among officials.

Four cases among non-official Europeans with two deaths.

No cases recorded among the natives.

Yellow Fever.—No cases among officials. Two with one death, and two probable cases with one death among non-official Europeans.

Trypanosomiasis.—Seven cases reported in Ashanti with three deaths; three result unknown and one improved. Five of these cases occurred at Sunyani, one at Obuasi, and one at Kumasi.

Small Pox.—A small outbreak occurred at Ayenim Mine—eight cases in all, among natives. There were no deaths. Besides the above two cases were reported at Kumasi and one at Sunyani.

During the year 3,444 primary and re-vaccinations were performed by the Government Vaccinator—2,208 on males and 1,236 on females. Of these 2,618 proved successful and 255 were not inspected. The majority of persons vaccinated were children.

Enteric Fever.—Only three cases reported. One non-official European recovered. Two native cases with one death.

Dysentery.—102 cases with two deaths. This is a fairly common disease, and is generally of the amoebic variety.

Leprosy.—Eight cases reported in all of the anaesthetic variety. But there can be no doubt that the disease is prevalent among the natives, especially in the vicinity of the Sacred Lake.

Malaria.—475 cases recorded, as follows:—

Tertian	..	..	..	35
Quartan	..	..	..	34
Aestivo-Autumnal	..	..	..	77 (one death)
Unclassed	..	..	..	329
				<hr/> 475 <hr/>

The general health of Europeans and natives was good. No epidemic occurred, and only one small outbreak of yellow fever and another of small-pox.

Sanitation and Climate.

The sanitation of Kumasi was controlled by a Medical Officer of Health assisted by a European Inspector and native staff. Kumasi enjoys the reputation of being a remarkably clean and well kept town.

The sanitation of Obuasi was undertaken by a Sanitary Committee under the presidency of the Provincial Commissioner.

Kintampo and Sunyani were both in charge of the Medical Officers stationed there for the time being.

The rainfall throughout Ashanti was considerably less in 1914 than in the immediate previous years.

Kumasi only had 44·52 inches of rain, as against 55·9 in 1913, with a mean temperature of 74·44 degrees and a relative humidity of 84·66 ; *Sunyani*, 43·50 inches of rain, with a mean temperature of 76·5 degrees and a relative humidity of 80·13 ; *Kintampo*, rainfall 54·98 inches, temperature 74·76, relative humidity 59·17 degrees.

Obuasi.—A rainfall of 72·98 inches, mean temperature 72·43.

Generally speaking, the sanitation of the Ashanti villages is rapidly improving. All appear eager to improve their towns and many applications are received for overseers to cut streets, align buildings, set aside refuse heaps, etc.

The Ashanti is cleanly in his person and is quickly learning to become more particular with regard to his material surroundings.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

Services—Daily between Kumasi and the Coast ; bi-weekly to Ejura and the Northern Territories ; weekly to the other out stations.

The service generally was well maintained.

The *Kumasi Post Office* handled the following postal matter :—

	Forwarded.	Received.	Total.
Letters and Post Cards	110,946	124,007	234,953
Book Packets and Newspapers ..	20,467	29,815	50,282
Registered Articles ..	10,984	10,421	21,405
Parcels	3,648	8,943	12,591
Totals ..	146,045	173,186	319,231

Obuasi Post Office.

	Forwarded.	Received.	Total.
Letters and Post Cards	46,296	59,708	106,004
Book Packets ..	2,220	32,100	34,320
Registered Articles ..	15,052	3,472	18,524
Parcels	480	5,028	5,508
Totals ..	64,048	90,308	164,356

The remaining offices in Ashanti, viz :—those at Chichiwere, Nkoranza, Kintampo, Atebubu, and Sunyani handled 15,991 articles in all.

The Telegraph service was well maintained under severe pressure since the outbreak of war. Credit is due to the whole staff in Ashanti for the manner in which the members responded to the unwonted strain placed upon them. 121,652 messages were received and sent by the stations in Ashanti.

Total Post Office receipts for the year, exclusive of Savings Banks, amounted to £31,769 6s. 7d. as against £37,795 16s. 8d. in 1913—a decrease that can only be accounted for by the outbreak of hostilities and a strict censorship.

RELIGION.

The following Missions are established in Ashanti, viz :—The Wesleyan, Basel, Catholic, Church of England, and Zion.

The *Wesleyan Mission* consisted of one European missionary, two ordained native ministers, nine catechists, seven day school teachers, one carpentry instructor, and one sewing mistress. The baptised community of adults and juniors numbered 1,459. They own 22 day and Sunday schools.

The *Basel Mission* numbered approximately 1,800 full members and 750 children. The staff consisted of three European ministers with their wives and children, and thirty native ministers and catechists. They own 30 chapels and schools in Ashanti.

The *Catholic Mission* consisted of two European priests, two teachers, two monitors, with eight chapels, and 792 adherents, divided between Kumasi and Obuasi.

The *Church of England* has made rapid progress during the year and now boasts of a fine school-church, 120 feet long by 25 broad. The priest in charge and a native catechist have the care of a congregation numbering about 250 souls.

The *Zion Mission* consisted of one minister controlling two churches and a total membership of 155, besides a day and a Sunday school.

The relations between Christian converts and their Ashanti kindred can only be described as surprisingly good, considering that the Christians are distributed all over the country, and have to live in close contact with their heathen brethren.

Occasionally a convert refuses to continue to carry out his hereditary “fetish” obligations and arbitration ensues. Both parties are responsible for this enviable and improved condition of affairs—the converts for their desire to live in peace and amity, the Chiefs for their praiseworthy toleration.

The Ashantis follow a sort of "animism." This is a mixture of ancestor worship and "fetish" rites and superstitions, but they view other creeds with composure and a certain amount of sympathy.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Native Affairs.—Relations between the Government and Chiefs and people generally were marked by cordiality.

No disturbance of a serious nature is to be recorded for 1914. Even inter-tribal disputes have decreased in number and importance. The enhanced value of land is the cause of 90 per cent. of these disputes. But instead of trying to settle them among themselves by force of arms as was formerly the case, the arbitration of the Commissioners is now eagerly sought for.

In the *Central Province* the only Division that disturbed the political serenity was that of Juaben, owing to friction between the Omanhene and his people, but towards the end of the year relations had somewhat improved.

The new station of Juaso, the head-quarters of the Ashanti-Akim District, has proved most popular with the natives of the Bompata, Juaben, Kumawu, and Obogo Divisions. All parties appear to appreciate the new administrative district and gave the Commissioner invaluable assistance in his building operations and public works generally.

The Omanhene of Aguna suffered from extremely bad health throughout the year, but he nevertheless attended to his public duties and the general welfare of his people.

The Omanhene of Ofinsu died in December after a long and lingering illness. His demise can only be regarded as a relief both to himself and his people.

The Omanhene of Obogu was destooled early in the year and a new Chief elected in his place.

The Commissioner of the *Western Province* reports as follows :—

"The Chief of Nkwanta, Kwamin Damte, was destooled after an exhaustive enquiry.

"The hostility to inclusion in the Wenchi sub-district, at first shown by the Jaman Chiefs, considerably lessened during the year.

"The settlement of a boundary between Tekementia and Ofinsu led to threats of intertribal disturbances between the tribes concerned, which were, however, much exaggerated and did not materialize.

"The conviction of a witch doctor in Ahafo for murder is expected to have a salutary effect on others, of whom there are many, of the same persuasion.

"Friction of a not serious order occurred between the Chiefs of Odumasi and the Omanhene of Wenchi and Tekiman. Their disputes had been settled at the close of the year.

" The Chief of the Suma Division of Jaman died at Wirimi.

" A land dispute was settled between Jemo and Nkwanta.

" The long standing dispute between Bedu and Selwa was settled by agreement, Bedu losing rights to Jaman land and seceding to Wenchhi."

An excellent piece of work was performed during the year at Wenchhi, the head-quarters of the District of that name, where the laying out and plotting of a new zongo, or alien native settlement, was commenced.

This is the largest alien settlement in the country ; it consists of Wongaras, Jiminis, Moshis, Hausas, Yorubas, and many more tribes, and promises to become a model for all others as well.

Goaso, the head-quarters of the Ahafo district, was practically completed by the end of the year. The wisdom of opening up a station in this out of the way part of the Province has manifested itself by the improved condition of the villages, the keener interest displayed by the inhabitants in commerce, and the general contentedness prevailing among them.

In the *Southern Province*, a new Chief of Akrokerri was enstooled. There were no intertribal disturbances of any sort.

The *Northern Province*.—The elderly and incompetent Omanhene of Atebubu was destooled by general request of his people. The village has been properly laid out since and the population is increasing.

The War.—Special mention should be made here of the unanimous and deep loyalty expressed by all the Ashanti Chiefs towards their Sovereign and Government on the outbreak of war. The feeling was spontaneous and sincere, and proved highly gratifying to the European Staff, the members of which have for years worked among the natives and attested to this growing loyalty.

Expressions willingly gave place to deeds when assistance was called for. Thus, the Kumasi Chiefs provided 600 carriers at short notice ; a service of day and night runners was established and, above all, scouts were thrown out as far as the Volta River by the Chiefs of Kumawu, Agogo, and Kwaman, who deserve special mention for their exemplary and laudable conduct.

These three Chiefs own most of the Afram plains. On the outbreak of hostilities a report was spread that the enemy were trying to organise raids into Ashanti. The three Chiefs (at the instigation of the Commissioner) at once took action and formed a cordon of scouts 200 strong, under Kumawu leadership, from British Kratchi to Aframsu, and all their warriors remained under arms in case of necessity.

These three Chiefs have been specially mentioned, not on account of their pre-eminent loyalty, but because, owing to their geographical position, more tangible work fell to them to perform. Under similar circumstances all the Ashanti Chiefs would have displayed equal ardour and zeal to assist the Government.

Contributions towards the Gold Coast War Fund have been characterized by liberality.

By the end of the year considerably over £5,000 had been either paid or promised towards the fund.

One Chief, the Agunahene, offered the whole of the year's cocoa crop of his Division towards the fund.

Needless to say this disproportionate generosity was not encouraged.

The Chief of Adansi, Kobina Foli, presented £1,000 towards the fund.

Not the least gratifying factor in the attitude of the natives lies in the implicit trust displayed in the ultimate victory of the British Government, a trust engendered as much by conviction as it is by sentiment.

Roads.

The Superintending Engineer of the Kumasi-Ejura road reports as follows :—

" In May, 1913, the road was inspected by His Excellency the Governor, and in accordance with his subsequent recommendations, the Secretary of State decided that the surface improvement should be carried out only as far as a distance of 35·73 miles, the work to be completed by the end of 1914.

" The work has proceeded continuously since November, 1912, except for a period of some six weeks in August and September, 1914, when all the labourers were employed as carriers in connection with the military operations in Togoland, and was completed in all respects on 20th November, 1914.

" Between miles 5 and 18, and 25½ and 28½, no laterite quarries could be located, and granite was therefore used in its place, for an approximate length of 16 miles, the remaining 19·73 miles being almost entirely laterite.

" The latter owing to slight crushing under the rollers gives a better running surface, but probably will not wear so well as the granite.

" It was originally intended to give the metalling a width of 16 feet throughout, and a distance of 10 miles was completed on this basis.

" Subsequently, stone becoming scarce, quarries being far distant from the road and each other, and laterite non-existent, the width was reduced to 14 feet from motives of economy. This width, proving ample for all practical purposes, was retained for the remainder of the work.

" The nominal thickness of the metalling is 3 inches, this being increased where necessary to restore the original camber to the road.

" An attempt has been made to make the camber steeper than the grade as far as possible, with very satisfactory results. In the absence of any soleing, the surface obtained is naturally largely dependent on the nature of the sub-grade, but the average surface throughout is distinctly good, and up to date is wearing well.

" The estimated cost of labour only, which was necessarily framed without any previous experience as a guide, was £500 a mile. The actual cost worked out at £397 a mile approximately.

" The saving on the estimate is mainly due to greater good fortune in the location of suitable outcrops of stone in the northern section of the road under treatment, than was experienced in the sections near Kumasi, on the cost of which the estimate was based. Increased skill in the use of quarrying tools by the labourers also materially contributed to this result.

" The European staff has consisted throughout this work of the Superintending Engineer, the Accountant and Storekeeper, and two non-commissioned officers of the Royal Engineers as overseers.

"Since December, 1913, only one overseer has actually been employed on the work of metalling.

"In August, 1914, Mr. E. C. Spencer, Accountant and Storekeeper, and Sergeant B. Boniface, R.E., Overseer, left the Colony with the Expeditionary Force and have not since returned.

"Throughout this work, the supply of labour has been in excess of the requirements of the department.

"The work appears to be very popular with the natives, and the strict adhesion to the principle of personal payment by officers only is of undoubted utility in gaining their confidence.

"The majority of the labourers continue to come from the Northern Territories and northern Togoland, although the Ashantis turn out in fair numbers in the neighbourhood of their own particular villages.

"The general development of the country traversed by this road is still in its infancy. When the construction of this main artery to the north was approved, that part of Ashanti through which it was to pass, was a thinly populated region, and almost entirely undeveloped.

"Since the completion of the road and the importation of motor lorries, there has been a marked and ever-growing extension of all the villages, and an inspection of the neighbouring forest reveals a concentration on the cultivation of cocoa, which should show a very considerable development in the near future.

"Up to the present time, the chief traffic on the road has been between Kumasi and Agona (Mile 22), whither the cocoa from the Afiduasi district has been transported.

"With the completion of the new road to Afiduasi, this large and increasing traffic has been diverted to the neighbourhood of Ntonsu (Mile 14) and for some time to come the heaviest traffic will be on the first 14 miles of the road. It is therefore, perhaps, a matter for congratulation that the major portion of this distance is surfaced with the more durable kind of stone.

"Owing to the use of cars between Kumasi and Ejura, the Transport Department has been able to reduce the time required for the delivery of mails to the Northern Territories by three days, with a corresponding reduction of expense.

"During the development of mobilization in accordance with the Local Defence Scheme in August, 1914, the saving of expense and the improvement of communications rendered possible by the existence of 61 miles opened to wheeled traffic, was very marked and of material benefit to the military authorities."

With regard to the Ntonsu-Afiduasi extension he reports:—

"The district of which the village of Afiduasi is the nominal centre, is one of the largest producers of cocoa in Ashanti. Up to the present time, owing to the impossibility of rolling barrels along the old road to Kumasi, the only means by which the cocoa could be brought to railhead was by rolling in barrels to Agona (Mile 22 on the Ejura Road), an approximate distance of 12 miles, and thence transporting it in lorries and barrels to Kumasi.

"A request was therefore made by the Kumasi Chamber of Commerce for the construction of a branch road, which would not only diminish the mileage but enable lorries to run through to the village of Afiduasi.

"A certain amount of preliminary survey was undertaken in 1913 in order that an estimate might be framed, and that there should be no delay in putting the work in hand in the event of the construction being authorised.

"The money was voted for this work during 1914, and work was begun on April 16th. All work was discontinued on August 4th, owing to the mobilisation of the labourers for transport work in connection with the military expedition to Togoland, and re-opened on October 23rd. On December 1st, with the assistance of temporary deviation bridges, the road was opened for light traffic.

"Owing to the abolition of the department and to the above-mentioned delay caused by the military operations, it was found impossible to complete the semi-permanent bridges before the end of the year. The road has, however, been handed over to the Public Works Department, complete in all respects except for the actual construction of three bridges, for which the major portion of the timber has been sawn.

"The road branches from the Ejura Road near the village of Ntonsu, at a point $14\frac{1}{2}$ miles approximately from Kumasi. The choice of this point was determined by the existence of the watershed along which the Ejura road runs to this point.

"The new road is exactly 10 miles in length. It follows a watershed for the first $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of its length, after which it traverses the valleys of three streams to a point near the village of Juaben ($21\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Kumasi). The remaining $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles follow another watershed into the village of Afiduasi.

"The old path from Ntonsu to Afiduasi has an approximate length of 12 miles, and traverses some very broken country. It was therefore found impossible, without seriously increasing the length of the road and the cost consequent thereon, and also building a greater number of bridges, to follow accurately the line of the existing villages.

"Consequently, with the concurrence of the Chief Commissioner, the aim of the survey was to find the best road line from an engineering and economical point of view, although the desires of the inhabitants of the most important villages were gratified as far as possible.

"In this connection, as showing the popularity of the work undertaken by this department, the Superintending Engineer was given a free hand by the villagers to demolish any houses or cut down any cocoa plantations which would enable him thereby to bring the road through or near their villages.

"(a) The width of the road is 16 feet between cutting edges of ditches.

"(b) The ruling gradient is 1 in 20, but this has only been used for a total length of 367 yards.

"The following brief description of the method of survey employed, is appended for general information. After preliminary reconnaissance, from which the general plan is decided upon, a rigid traverse is run in the required direction, and accurately levelled at every 100 feet.

"From this main line branch lines are cut at intervals, which are approximately levelled by clinometer.

"The word approximately is used above only in its comparative sense. Experience has shown that levelling by this method, as compared with the more accurate instrument, gives an average error of less than one inch over a distance of 100 feet.

"From these branch lines, the contour of the neighbouring country is obtained, from which the road line is produced by junction cuts and grading.

"The net result of these operations is that from the original traverse in the approximate final direction of the road, the surrounding country for an average distance of a quarter of a mile in all directions is thoroughly explored and contoured.

"After the line is cleared, the final centre line of the road is laid out with the theodolite, and levelled at every 100 feet, from which the earthwork details are issued to the overseer.

"Only true curves have been employed with super-elevation of three inches at the curve top.

"A complete record of all details of the road line, levels, grades, curves, culverts, bridges, and mileage has been handed over to the Public Works Department.

"*Bridges and Culverts.*—As previously mentioned, three bridges remain to be built.

"Four culverts have been constructed, and no more are required. In accordance with His Excellency's instructions, these have been built entirely of hard wood, except the floors, which have been consolidated with rammed stone. They have been very solidly built and should have a life of several years.

"The approximate cost of each culvert is £11.

"The establishment of the department was not increased for this work. From motives of economy and as a valuable experiment, each overseer was entrusted with more than double the number of gangs previously allotted to any one man. On occasion, each of the two overseers has been in charge of more or less scattered working parties of over 700 men, representing a total cost of about £40 a day. As the overseer's salary does not amount to £1 a day, this represents a very low percentage of supervision charges for this Colony, and it is submitted that the corresponding low cost of the work reflects credit on the energy and keenness of Serjeant Boniface and Corporal Massie, of the Royal Engineers, the two overseers in question.

"Throughout the period of construction of this road, more labour has been forthcoming than could be satisfactorily employed.

"The estimate, based on the cost of the Ejura road, was £500 a mile. The decrease in the width of the road, combined with the increased experience of the overseers in supervision and of the labourers in the use of tools, caused the work to be considerably cheaper than was anticipated. The expenditure up to the time of handing over was £3,022, representing an average cost per mile of £302. It is considered that the construction of the three bridges should be effected without difficulty for the sum of £278, bringing the total cost of the road to £3,300, or £330 a mile.

"The saving of cost of transport of cocoa from Afidusi to Kumasi works out at 35s. a ton.

"The delivery of 2,000 tons of cocoa will, therefore, represent more than the entire capital cost of the road.

"On December 1st, 1914, when the road was opened for light traffic, there were 400 tons of cocoa collected in the vicinity of Afidusi as the result of one month's buying.

"Since the opening of the road, also, owing to the difficulty of obtaining labour for the work of barrel rolling along native roads, the area tapped by the new road has extended as far as Agogo and Bompata."

District Roads.

Some 170 miles of district roads were built during the year. The principal being between :—

Kumasi—Tappa (Boundary),
Juaso and surrounding villages,
Ejura—Nkoranza,
Wenchi—Menge,

and roads radiating from Goaso.

These roads, although not intended for vehicular traffic, are used by enterprising motorists to an appreciable extent. Motor cars have penetrated as far north as Wenchi, but this speaks more for the pluck and perseverance of the drivers than of the use the roads can be put to, both bridge and road work being of the roughest and only costing an average of £20 a mile, clearing included.

The political value of these roads is important and the moral influence they exert on the minds of the natives is highly beneficial to the administration.

Railway.

Inwards goods traffic decreased from 22,406 tons in 1913 to 18,523 tons in 1914.

26,386 tons of firewood were hauled for the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation for short distances within Ashanti.

Outwards goods traffic (exclusive of firewood) amounted to 16,757 tons, against 14,254 in 1913, an increase of 2,503 tons.

Passenger Traffic.—174,994 passengers were booked in and out of Ashanti during the year, a decrease of 33,504 on the previous year. The value of the traffic was £28,417.

A survey of the Kumasi-Accra Railway Extension was carried through the Central Province of Ashanti at the commencement of the year.

Forestry.

The three Forest Reserves in Ashanti, viz., the Pra-Anum, the Obogu, and the Kumawu-Agogo, were all inspected by the Forestry Department during the year, but no additions were made.

The Conservator remarks :—

“The teak and sissoo plantations in the Ashanti reserves will not be extended and only a minimum of expenditure incurred in weeding them occasionally.

“The original intention was to plant up blanks and old deserted farms in these reserves with teak and sissoo, and not to cut down dense forest growth although composed of worthless species, but Mr. Chipp, who was deputed to start these plantations, apparently not finding blanks, selected such areas as were composed of inferior stock and started operations.

“Both teak and sissoo are doing well, but to extend these plantations would be a costly and unnecessary work, as the stock of the reserves can be improved by other sylvicultural operations than that of substituting exotics for indigenous species.”

Transport Department.

The following table gives the particulars of the work done by the Department during the year:—

Number of loads despatched by railway	1,349
" " " distributed in Ashanti	4,400
" " " to Ejura by motor	7,863
" " " sent to Northern Territories	2,520
" " " moved in Kumasi	8,656
" " carriers conveying officers in Ashanti including troops	1,039
" " passengers to Ejura	564
" " mails moved to and from station	5,000
" " carriers sent with mails	330
" " mails by motor to Ejura	998
" " carriers engaged on contract for Government	2,091

The motor service between Kumasi and Ejura worked well throughout the year and really facilitated the work of the Department.

Veterinary Department.

During the year, 1,616 cattle were inspected by officers of the Department.

Several cattle died from pleuro-pneumonia. The description showed an increase of 210 head over the inspection of 1913.

During the year 12 cattle were bought for the live-stock farm in Kumasi—all of the unhumped variety. These cattle are the beginning of a Government herd under the Department. Of the twelve, three died and one was killed, as it was suffering from bovine pleuro-pneumonia. At the close of the year there were in the herd:—one bull, four cows, two heifers, and two heifer calves.

The number of cattle inspected for exportation by railway was 4,021, an increase of 401 over the total for 1913.

Kumasi Town.

The following table shows the Revenue collected during 1914 as compared with previous years:—

	1911	1912	1913	1914	Increase(+) or decrease(-) 1914 as compared with 1913
	£	£	£	£ s.	£ s.
Rents of Town Plots	1,854	1,941	2,035	2,159 0	+124 0
Rents of Zongo Plots	620	699	736	767 0	+21 0
Market Rents ..	203	207	197	304 15	+107 15
Slaughter House Fees	694	721	815	837 14	+22 14
Spirit Licences, Kumasi Town ..	1,340	1,590	1,680	1,810 0	+130 0
Beer Licences ..	4	6	4	4 0	'
Dog Licences ..	14	20	15	13 0	-2 0
Totals	£ 4,729	5,184	5,482	5,885 9	+403 9

The increase in town rents is due to remeasurement of areas : 14 new leases were granted and five cancelled.

In the zongo, five new plots were granted and two cancelled.

The increase in market rents was due to the opening of 24 new meat-stalls at a rental of 30s. a quarter. as opposed to 16 old stalls at 9s.

The population of the town is now roughly 24,000, made up of Ashantis, Fantis, Accras, Hausas, Moshis, Wongaras, Yorubas, and many more alien tribes.

The total number of criminal cases heard during the year was 1,681, an increase of 518 as compared with 1913. Sanitary cases showed an increase of 512. 613 civil cases were heard, an increase of 26 on 1913. The year began with 66 and ended with 78 police.

The town limits were extended by half a mile in every direction with the consent of the Kumasi Chiefs, and the extension was surveyed and demarcated before the end of the year.

The development of the township on the Ejisu road is proceeding well and a new English church (S. P. G.) was commenced and finished in the year in that township.

Buildings on the European reservation—a high and spacious ridge to the south-west of the town—proceeded as fast as material considerations permitted. Thirteen sets of quarters are at present being erected thereon and many more will follow in course of time.

The following are the figures of animals slaughtered for human consumption :—

Cattle	..	..	4,681
Sheep	..	..	682
Goats	..	..	3,637
Pigs	..	..	229

Fees collected amounted to £815.

The new slaughter-house has proved a great success. Slaughtering was only permitted between the hours of 4.30 and 6.30 p.m. The meat is stored overnight in the store room attached to the slaughter-house and sold next day in the market. What was tried as an experiment resulted in an unqualified success ; the quality of the meat has improved considerably.

During the latter months of the year fees for slaughtering showed a decrease, due, no doubt, to the war.

The butchers in Kumasi carry on a credit system with the cattle dealers and many of them fall heavily into debt. The dealers, having gained their experience through bitter experience, now refuse to part with their cattle unless ready money is produced.

Animals were all slaughtered with a humane cattle-killer and the meat was inspected after slaughtering.

During the year the following meat was condemned :—

6 whole carcasses of cattle.
408 pairs of lungs.
125 livers.
6 spleens.
385 other parts.

The new meat market was completed and opened in the early part of the year. All the stalls were let.

The food generally has been good and abundant. A shortage of cattle was reported in the latter part of the year, but the butchers themselves were mainly responsible for this.

Sanitation of Town.

The following sanitary improvements were carried out during the year :—

- 6 Incinerators for zongo.
- 3 " " Ashanti town.
- 12 Refuse sheds for incinerators.
- 5 New double latrines.
- Concreting Meat Market.
- Fixing pump to Cape Coast Road well and a few minor items such as culverts.

The total expenditure on these works was £2,292 4s. 1d. Only £2,000 was voted for Kumasi sanitary improvements, but this was supplemented by another £300.

In addition to the above, 600 yards of concrete drain was laid down at the foot of the European Reservation bridge.

Considerable progress was made in reclaiming the swamp in the valley of the Subin stream. Part of the ground so reclaimed has been turned into a recreation ground.

Sixty-eight building permits were granted during the year. In every case the permit was submitted to the Medical Officer of Health previous to being sanctioned by the police magistrate.

During the year £1,950 was spent on scavengers and labourers and £497 on clearing Government lands.

The European Reservation, the new township and reclaiming of land all added to the large area to be kept cleared. Much land that was dense forest in 1913 is now cleared and planted with dubh grass.

The European water supply is obtained from a spring known as "King's Well." The water is fairly good. A new and improved type of water drum was issued to officials.

The natives of Kumasi proper obtain their water mostly from 11 public wells which are under the control of the Sanitary Department. There is only one public well in the zongo. Nearly every compound there has a private well. Storage of water in tanks and barrels is discouraged. No tanks are allowed on building permits.

A preliminary investigation for the Kumasi water supply on a large scale was held during the year.

Public Works.

Progress of work during 1914 was good on the whole.

Total expenditure for the year :—

	P. W. R.	P. W. E.	Total.
Kumasi ..	£2,106 11 5	£32,628 13 10	£34,735 5 3
Kintampo ..	90 16 7	1,180 1 11	1,270 18 6
Sunyani ..	87 4 3	4,019 6 5	4,106 10 8
	<hr/> £2,284 12 3	<hr/> 37,828 2 2	<hr/> 40,112 14 5

The principal items were :—

Recurrent.—Minor works, current repairs, maintenance of town and district roads, tanks and wells, lamps and lamp posts, and special repairs to roofs.

Extraordinary.—

Kumasi :—	New quarters for Commanding Officer	Completed.
"	Contagious Diseases Hospital	"
"	Native Hospital Extension	"
"	Quarters, Type "A"	"
"	Completion of lines for one Company	"
"	Quarters, Type "C"	Nearly completed.
"	Quarters, Type "C"	"
"	Clearing and laying out reservation area	Completed.
"	Four Quarters, Type "B"	Completing.
"	M. O. H's. Offices and Stores	Completed.
"	Additions to Quarters	"
"	Motor Garage	"
"	Additions to Native Hospital	"
"	New Latrines for troops	"
"	Extension of Boys' School	"
"	Six Bungalows, Type "C"	in progress.

Several hundred yards of concrete drain and various sanitary improvements Completed.			
Kintampo :—	Quarters, Type " B "	.. ..	"
"	Dispensers quarters .. ..	.. ..	"
"	Magazine Guard Room .. ..	.. ..	"
"	Quarters for Provincial Commissioner	.. ..	"
"	Quarters for District Commissioner	.. ..	"
Sunyani :—	Quarters for Provincial Commissioner	.. ..	"
"	Quarters for District Commissioner	.. ..	"
"	Quarters for Medical Officer .. ..	.. ..	"
"	Native Hospital .. ..	.. ..	"
"	Dispensers Quarters .. ..	.. ..	"
"	Magazine Guard Room .. ..	.. ..	"
"	Government School .. ..	.. ..	"

Both Obuasi and Kintampo were shut down as far as the Public Works Department was concerned, all temporary projected buildings having been completed.

Much work was accomplished by the Department in spite of shortage of materials occasioned by the war.

Wages.

One shilling a day, with 3*d.* for subsistence, continues to be the standard wage for unskilled labour, which now comes in in considerable quantities from the Northern Territories.

Skilled labourers, especially masons, blacksmiths, carpenters, etc., are very scarce and can command high rates. The supply is not likely to meet the demand for a long time.

Living is cheap for the natives as compared with the Colony. Food-stuffs are generally plentiful, and in the larger markets the prices are reviewed from time to time by the Commissioners in consultation with the local Chiefs.

Prospects of Future Trade.

The year was good for trade and showed an increase in bulk and value over that of 1913, in spite of temporary dislocation caused by the outbreak of hostilities.

The cocoa output surpassed that of 1913 by 35 per cent. This industry is in the hands of the natives and promises extraordinary powers of expansion as more plantations come into bearing.

Money is plentiful, necessities cheap, luxuries dear. The enormous influx of traders from the north indicates the trade prosperity of the country.

The Ashantis can be called a rich people. They are inclined to hoard their wealth, although they spend liberally on stated occasions.

Large sums of money are made by alien middlemen, especially in the cattle and kola trades.

Suitability for Europeans.

The climate of Ashanti is not suited for permanent European settlement. The average stay in the country is twelve months, after which recuperation in a more bracing climate is necessary.

Employment cannot be found locally for Europeans and no one should come out without previous engagement.

The European community consists exclusively of officials, merchants, miners, and missionaries.

F. C. FULLER,
Chief Commissioner, Ashanti.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1913-1914
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Wei-hai-wei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	1914
859	Gold Coast	"
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE.
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

LIBRARY
DEC 4 1915

No. 865.

C Y P R U S.

REPORT FOR 1914–1915.

(For Report for 1913–14 see [Cd. 7643] October, 1914.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.



L O N D O N :
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LIMITED, THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 76622-56.] Price 3d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE	7
LEGISLATION	11
EDUCATION	11
MEDICAL	15
POLICE AND PRISONS	18
JUDICIAL AND CRIMINAL STATISTICS	21
POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, AND TELEPHONES	22
AGRICULTURE	24
FORESTS	28
LAND REGISTRY AND SURVEY.. .. .	30
PUBLIC WORKS	34
METEOROLOGICAL	37
RAILWAY	37
MISCELLANEOUS	38
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	39
MAP.	

By Transfer
APR 22 1919

No. 865.

CYPRUS

(For Report for 1913-14 see [Cd. 7643] October, 1914.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Troodos,

11th September, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith the Annual Report on the
Cyprus Blue Book for the year 1914-15.

I have, etc.,

JOHN E. CLAUSON,

High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable

Andrew Bonar Law, M.P.,

&c., &c., &c.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF CYPRUS

FOR THE YEAR 1914-15.

The Island of Cyprus, which has been administered by Great Britain since 1878 under the Convention with Turkey of the 4th of June, 1878, was, on the outbreak of war with Turkey on the 5th of November, 1914, annexed to His Majesty's dominions.

FINANCIAL.

The Revenue collected in 1914-15 was	..	..	£290,110
Grant-in-aid	..	..	50,000
			£340,110
Expenditure	..	..	£316,414
Share of Turkish debt charge	..	..	92,800
			409,214
Deficit on the year's transactions	..	..	£69,104

The apparent deficit on the year's transactions is accounted for partly by the inclusion in the expenditure of the sum of £52,640, appropriated from Surplus Balances for certain works of public utility, and partly by the holding over of a considerable quantity of tithe grain, amounting in value to about £21,000, which would normally have been sold and credited to revenue before 31st March, 1915, and which has in fact been sold and credited since that date. If these two figures are taken into account the apparent deficit of £69,104 becomes an actual surplus on the year's transactions of about £4,536.

The local revenue was £51,707 less than that of the year 1913-14 and £28,429, or slightly under 9 per cent. less than the average of the last preceding five years, viz., £318,539.

This decrease in the revenue, apart from the non-realization of a portion of the tithe grain above referred to, is due almost entirely to the war, but for which there is every reason to suppose that the revenue estimate of £317,750 would have been fully realised, as the receipts for the first four months of the year under review compared favourably with those for the corresponding period of the previous year.

The revenue of the last five years under the several heads of classification adopted in the Treasury accounts compares as follows : —

Head of Revenue.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913 14.	1914-15.
	£	£	£	£	£
Tithe	79,301	97,052	96,638	98,928	73,022
Sheep and Goat Tax ..	14,318	13,866	12,531	12,531	12,239
Pig Tax	909	914	1,014	937	984
Verghis	28,901	29,489	30,309	29,895	29,003
Defter Hakani	7,879	9,742	11,165	12,920	9,080
Customs	43,518	48,122	54,095	52,117	41,608
Excise	46,832	48,132	47,601	51,107	49,018
Port Dues, etc.	11,490	14,294	12,957	12,037	8,906
Court Receipts & Stamps	12,717	12,732	12,502	13,921	13,708
Post Office	7,021	7,162	8,720	8,904	7,984
Royalties	873	1,414	1,571	1,392	1,326
Forest Revenue	5,005	6,457	8,674	11,278	10,299
Irrigation	323	1,229	721	1,070	712
Specific Services and Re- imbursements	4,911	7,500	5,223	5,532	5,782
Interest on Government Moneys	5,734	6,452	9,069	10,482	9,818
Miscellaneous	899	930	936	1,137	1,186
Land Sales	35	78	208	52	53
Railway	10,353	11,352	12,370	13,371	13,621
Agricultural Dept. ..	5,829	2,655	5,390	4,212	1,761
Totals	£286,848	£319,572	£334,685	£341,816	£290,110

The principal items, as compared with the previous year, calling for notice, are :—

INCREASES.

Court Receipts : Fines and Forfeitures, £764. Martial Court Fines.

Railway : Errykhon Extension, £232. New head.

DECREASES.

Customs, £10,180. Decreased importation owing to the war.

Tithes collected by Revenue Department, £19,940. Smaller harvest, and wheat and vetches of estimated value £21,000 unsold.

Tithes collected by Customs Department, £5,965. Less exportation owing to the suspension of shipping facilities on account of the war.

Defter Hakani, £3,840. Fewer transactions owing to the Moratorium.

Agricultural Department : Receipts, £2,450. Smaller contribution from Public Works Loan Fund owing to decrease in transactions.

The collection of the Property Tax (Verghi Kimat) was satisfactory, showing a total of £29,232 collected, out of an assessment of £31,110, equivalent to a percentage of 93·96. As regards arrears, £1,908 was collected out of a total of £4,519, equivalent to a percentage of 42·22.

EXPENDITURE.

The local expenditure (exclusive of the share of Cyprus of the Turkish Debt Charge, £92,800) was £316,414, as against £296,165 in the previous year, which represents an increase on the preceding year of £20,249, mainly due to the expenditure of £52,640 from surplus balances, and to general additions under Personal Emoluments granted in consequence of the increase in the cost of living.

The following table gives the expenditure for the last five years, exclusive of the share of Cyprus of the Turkish Debt Charge :—

1909-10	..	..	£251,264
1910-11	..	..	£251,521
1911-12	..	..	£235,256
1912-13	..	..	£242,681
1913-14	..	..	£255,088

The financial history of Cyprus for the period since the British Occupation to 31st March, 1915, may be summed up as follows :—

Revenue (exclusive of grant-in-aid)	..	..	..	..	..	£7,926,849 0 0
Grants-in-aid from British Treasury	..	..	..	..	..	1,247,085 0 0
						<hr/> £9,173,934 0 0
Expenditure (exclusive of share of Cyprus of Turkish Debt Charge)	..	..	..	..	..	£5,662,381 0 0
Turkish Debt Charge Payments	..	..	..	..	..	3,347,538 0 0
						<hr/> 9,009,919 0 0
Surplus of Receipts over Expenditure	..	..	..	..	..	<hr/>£164,015 0 0

which latter figure agrees with the balance of Assets and Liabilities as shown by the Surplus and Deficit Account, the exact figure being £164,014.19.2cp.

It should be borne in mind, however, that, although the balance of assets over liabilities as shown in the Surplus and Deficit Account amounts to £164,014.19.2cp., there is a liability on account of the share of Cyprus of the Turkish Debt Charge in respect of the year 1914-15, but payable on the 31st July, 1915, amounting to £51,799.11.2cp. and if this sum is deducted a net balance of £112,215.8.0 results. There are also liabilities of expenditure pertaining to last year amounting approximately to £1,150. On the other hand there are (a) arrears of Verghi Kimat amounting to £4,315, of which sum, however, £461 only are appropriable to General Revenue, the balance being in respect of the amount of the assessments in excess of £29,000 per annum for the years up to 1914-15 inclusive, which is appropriable under Law XII of 1907 to works of public utility, and (b) arrears of revenue in respect of tithe grain not brought to account in 1914-15 to the approximate value of £21,000, as described above.

A shortage of gold currency made itself felt shortly after the outbreak of war and, with a view to the early clearance of the carob crop and to the alleviation of the general financial stringency, it was decided to introduce a restricted note currency. To meet immediate demands locally-printed notes of the face value of £5 and £1 to a total value of £35,000 were issued in September, 1914. Simultaneously the Crown Agents were instructed to arrange for the printing in England of notes of the face values of £5, £1, 10s. and 5s. Forgeries of the locally-printed notes were discovered on the 3rd December, 1914, but prompt demonetisation of this issue by exchange for notes printed in England prevented any wide circulation of the forged notes. Locally-printed notes to the value of £29 only are now outstanding. The perpetrators appear to have confined their attention entirely to notes of the £1 denomination, 93 forgeries of which have been brought to light, for 92 of which compensation has been paid by Government after careful enquiry. Of the notes printed in England a total issue of £42,959 10s. only was made, and by the end of the year notes to the value of £28,100 were presented for withdrawal, the issue of the notes and the prohibition of the export of specie having caused the metal currencies to circulate freely in the island.

On the outbreak of war a period of delay for the payment of debts was prescribed by Proclamation, and this was extended in general application from time to time up to the 7th November, 1914, and in particular application with regard to transactions affecting immovable property to various dates in different districts up to the 30th September, 1915. As, however, the Moratorium was not made applicable to the collection of Government taxes the only adverse effect on the collection of revenue was the reduction in fees collected by the Land Registry Office—Head 3, “Direct Taxes—Defter Hakani,” consequent on the suspension of transactions affecting immovable property; the temporary loss of revenue from this source should be recovered in due course, increased transactions being anticipated on the expiration of the period of delay.

Notwithstanding the dislocation caused by the war the financial position of the island during the year remained satisfactory. The actual revenue received was £27,640 less than the original estimate, but this apparent shortfall in reality amounted to £6,640 only, if the value of tithe grain held over is taken into account. On the other hand, the actual expenditure, exclusive of the sum appropriated from Surplus Balances, was £10,441 less than the original estimate, which more than covers the shortfall in estimated revenue.

TRADE.

Imports.

The total value of imports of merchandise was £496,744, as against £619,338 during the previous year, a decrease of £122,594, due to the war.

The following comparative table shows the imports for each of the last five years under the main heads of classification :—

	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
	£	£	£	£	£
Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics	193,792	178,990	148,107	167,122	117,233
Raw materials	59,037	52,800	72,673	81,704	72,828
Manufactured articles ..	240,646	315,982	381,565	370,512	306,883
Total	£ 493,475	547,772	602,345	619,338	496,744

The principal articles showing decreases are :—Beans and peas, £1,372; butter, £3,597; coffee, £5,161; vetches, £4,269; flour, £24,219; fish, 2,603; olives, £1,275; provisions, £3,258; sugar, £6,277; tumbeki or Persian tobacco, £1,184; coal, £2,430; copper, £1,151; chemical manure, £2,292; timber, £1,611; machinery, £9,278; cotton yarn, £4,549; cotton goods, £10,614; haberdashery, £2,161; sacks, £1,763; woollen manufactures, £6,656; earthenware, £1,464; glassware, £1,141; indigo, £1,013; leather sole, £4,843; leather manufactures, £3,540; medicines, £1,107; other articles, £13,766.

The following table shows whence imports are received :

	1913	Percentage.	1914	Percentage.
	£		£	
United Kingdom and British Colonies ..	177,908	28·7	153,446	30·8
Turkey	66,952	10·8	53,742	10·8
Egypt	70,112	11·3	52,491	10·6
France	41,228	6·7	28,753	5·8
Greece	34,147	5·5	44,766	9·0
Germany	23,617	3·8	14,295	2·9
Austria	89,235	14·4	51,030	10·3
Italy	62,377	10·1	46,154	9·3
Other Countries	53,762	8·7	52,085	10·5
Total	£619,338	100·0	£497,744	100·0

Exports.

The total value of exports of merchandise during 1914 amounted to £496,776, a surplus over the value of imports of £32, but a decrease from the value of exports in 1913 of £123,815, due to the prohibition of exports to enemy countries. Large stocks of carobs, cotton and silk cocoons, however, which remained unshipped, were available for export this year.

The following comparative table shows the exports during the last five years under the main heads of classification :—

	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
	£	£	£	£	£
Live animals, food, drink and narcotics	380,685	498,142	579,862	458,708	399,436
Raw material	100,332	103,960	124,332	133,366	81,485
Manufactured articles ..	30,824	24,455	24,794	28,517	15,855
Total £	511,841	626,557	728,988	620,591	496,776

Of the exports the principal items were :—Carobs, £182,454 ; barley, £48,124 ; animals, £41,580 ; wines and spirits, £33,801 ; fruit, £30,951 ; cotton, £27,605 ; wool, £15,064 ; potatoes, £11,741 ; cheese, £10,132 ; hides and skins, £7,966.

The following table shows the direction of exports during 1914, compared with 1913 :—

	1913.	1914.	Increase.	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	120,713	162,615	41,902	—
British Colonies	6,249	6,696	447	—
Egypt	202,897	136,989	—	65,908
Turkey	56,460	38,265	—	18,195
France	91,320	68,775	—	22,545
Germany	4,564	2,268	—	2,296
Austria	25,985	10,235	—	15,750
Italy	14,312	11,663	—	2,649
Greece	40,511	36,828	—	3,683
Roumania	32,694	4,063	—	28,631
United States of America ..	1,968	2,553	585	—
Other countries	22,918	15,826	—	7,092
Total	£620,591	£496,776	£42,934	£166,749

The value of specie imported during 1914 amounted to £72,472, as compared with £55,807 during 1913, being an increase of £16,665. This is probably due to importations by the Imperial Ottoman Bank to meet the money crisis, and to specie brought by refugees from Turkey just before the outbreak of war. As regards exports, specie to the value of £53,463 was exported as against £79,322 during the previous twelve months, a decrease of £25,859. Money stringency necessitated prohibiting the export of specie and led to the issue of notes.

Shipping.

The total number and tonnage of steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared in the foreign trade were :—

1914	Steam.		Sailing.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Entered ..	192	261,332	678	28,682	870	290,014
Cleared ..	192	262,036	680	29,876	872	291,912
Total ..	384	523,368	1,358	58,558	1,742	581,926

There was a decrease of 25 steamers entered from foreign ports, amounting to 72,230 tons, but this decrease was small, in view of the fact that, owing to the outbreak of war, no Austrian steamers called after July and no French steamers after August, and in addition there was a decrease of 13 steamers of Italian nationality, amounting to 29,200 tons, owing to the Rubatino line not calling at Cyprus during the year; the decrease in Austrian steamers was 23, tons 48,632, and French 10, tons 18,399; the net decrease therefore was not as great as might have been expected.

The total number and tonnage of steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared in the coasting trade of Cyprus were :—

1914	Steam.		Sailing.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Entered ..	280	331,668	1,704	29,587	1,984	361,255
Cleared ..	280	334,966	1,724	29,928	2,004	364,894
Total ..	560	666,634	3,428	59,515	3,988	726,149

In the coasting trade there was a decrease of 56 steamers of 85,385 tons, chiefly due to the same cause; with regard to foreign sailing vessels, in the coasting trade there was again a slight falling off, thus continuing the decrease of previous years.

LEGISLATION.

The 1914 Session of the Legislative Council was opened by the High Commissioner on the 24th March. The Council held thirty-five sittings and was adjourned on the 9th June.

The usual Appropriation Bill was introduced and passed after considerable discussion, and the following laws were also passed :—

- The Supplementary Appropriation Law.
- The Surplus Balances Appropriation Law.
- The Aerial Navigation Law.
- The Suitors Protection Law.
- The Copyright Law.
- The Ecclesiastical Properties (Continuance) Law.
- The Sheri Court Fees Amendment Law.
- The Public Loans Amendment Law.
- The Secondary Education Amendment Law.
- The Criminal Law and Procedure Amendment Law.
- The Carob Weighing and Shipping Place Improvement Law.
- The Co-operative Credit Societies Law.

In addition to these the following Bills were introduced by the Government, but failed to pass into law :—

- A Bill to limit the number of ownerless dogs.
- A Bill to amend the Municipal Councils Law.
- A Bill to amend the Pensions Law of 1905.
- A Bill to amend the Malicious Injury to Property Law of 1894.
- A Bill to amend the Law relating to certain categories of Immovable Property.
- A Bill to revise the method of levying shipping dues.

EDUCATION.

The outbreak of war, combined with various other causes, has prevented any action being taken in the direction of modifying by legislation the present system of education in Cyprus, which was reported on by Messrs. J. E. Talbot and F. W. Cape, of the Board of Education, who visited Cyprus in 1913 to make a general enquiry into the state of education in the island. The method of assessment and the whole machinery of education continues therefore to be regulated by the Education Law of 1905, with such amendments as have since been made by the Legislative Council.

In the meantime, the extension of elementary schools continues. In the case of Moslems there is a school in practically every village that can afford one, and there has been a satisfactory extension of

female education, four new schools having been opened for girls last year and nine prescribed this year, making in all 29 Moslem girls' schools. The great difficulty amongst the Moslems is found in the considerable number of very small villages belonging to this community where the inhabitants cannot afford to pay a good master and consequently are on the "Unaided List," which gives them liberty to employ an uncertificated teacher at a very low salary (£6 to £7 per annum), and frequently they cease working altogether.

Amongst the Greek Christians, with the exception of a few small hamlets, practically every village has a boys' school, and the number of girls' schools is increasing satisfactorily, 12 having been added in the year under review, and 11 added to the list for next year. The problem of the Greek Christian schools is the number of villages in which, through the increase of population, the school attendance has outgrown the capacity of one master, and an additional teacher is required. This involves other questions, such as the provision of additional accommodation. But this is being overcome gradually, and there is reason to hope that in the course of time the chief deficiencies in school provision observed by the education experts will have been remedied.

There were in operation during the year 628 schools with 761 teachers and 36,661 scholars. This represents an increase of 18 schools, 22 teachers, and 2,629 scholars over last year. The average daily attendance except in the harvest time is estimated at 31,800.

These schools were maintained at an expense of £19,508, raised locally by assessments, contributions from religious funds or individuals (an increase of £550 over the previous year) and a grant-in-aid of £7,200 from the island revenue, increased from £6,700 last year. The average annual expense per child is about the same as last year, viz., 14s. 6d. cp., of which about 27 per cent. is contributed from general revenue.

Moslem Schools. There has been a decrease of two in the number of schools, and an increase of 205 in the number of pupils. Many of the Moslem village schools have less than 10 children in attendance.

The total number of Moslem schools under the Education Law in towns and villages this year was 171 for boys, or mixed, and 17 for girls, with 190 masters and 23 mistresses, and an enrolment of 5,849. The total cost of these schools was £4,796 (a decrease of £124), of which £1,500 was contributed from general revenue. The average daily attendance was 4,926 out of an enrolment of 6,325, or about 78 per cent. A small number of schools, known as "Sultan's Schools," were formerly supported by a grant from Constantinople, but owing to the war this grant has not been paid this year, and next year these schools will be absorbed into the general list. Six other schools, all in towns, are supported by the Evkaf, and receive no grant. The enrolment is 413 boys and 63 girls, under 10 masters.

Greek Christian Schools. There has been an increase of 20 in the number of the Greek Christian schools, and an increase of about 2,360 in the enrolment over the previous year. The total number of

Greek Christian schools, both in towns and villages prescribed under the Education Law was 341 for boys, or mixed, and 81 for girls, with 354 masters and 169 mistresses. The enrolment was 19,797 boys and 10,090 girls. These schools were maintained at an expense of £21,675 (an increase of £1,253), of which £5,605 was contributed from general revenue. The average daily attendance was 26,696 out of an enrolment of 36,102, or about 88 per cent.

Other Christian Schools. There are four Maronite schools under six masters, with 146 scholars. They are prescribed under the Education Law and receive a grant-in-aid of £40, the total cost being about £106.

There are four Armenian schools under six teachers, with 88 scholars, the total cost being about £210, of which the grant-in-aid amounts to £53. These schools, at the request of the community, will come under the Education Law next year.

The Moslem Board of Education set aside annually out of the grant-in-aid a sum of about £100 as building grants to assist the people in building or repairing schoolrooms. The Greek Christian Board do not feel able to set any sum aside for this purpose, but a considerable and increasing amount is added to the assessment each year for maintenance, repairs and furniture; in the case of Moslems this sum during the year amounted to £211, and in the case of Greek Christians to £930, which is advanced and collected in the same manner as teachers' salaries.

Remuneration of Elementary School Teachers. The average remuneration, including salary and Government grant, during the year was as follows :—

Moslem.

Town School Teachers	..	..	£29	14	0
Village Aided Teachers	..	..	22	17	0
Village Unaided Teachers	..	..	9	11	0

Greek Christian.

Town School Teachers	..	..	£55	8	0
Village Aided Teachers	..	..	36	6	0
Village Unaided Teachers	..	..	19	0	0

This shows an increase of £1 14s. 0d. in the salaries of Moslem teachers in town schools, and an increase of £8 in the average salary of the teachers in the Greek Christian town schools. The Moslem village teachers, who act also as Imans in the Mosques, are able to add something to their income from certain occasional fees, but this source is not open to Greek Christian teachers.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

Public Secondary Schools. These schools have worked on the accustomed lines, the Greek Commercial School at Larnaca in particular having shown excellent progress. The total expenditure on the Moslem Secondary Schools amounted to £728, of which £484 was provided from general revenue, and on the Greek Christian Schools

the expenditure amounted to £7,418, of which £450 was provided from general revenue. In the above figures is included an amount of about £920, which was spent for the purchase and repair of a good building now in use for the Larnaca Seminary.

Private Secondary Schools. The needs of the residents of Cyprus other than Moslem or Greek are provided for by other schools. the English School at Nicosia (undenominational), the American Academy at Larnaca, attached to the Reformed Presbyterian Mission, the Terra Santa School for boys and the Sisters of St. Joseph for girls at Nicosia (Roman Catholic) and other Roman Catholic schools at Larnaca and Limassol. These are, however, also attended by a considerable number both of Moslem and Greeks who appreciate the opportunity of learning other languages.

English Teaching. In accordance with the recommendation of the educational experts, the chief portion of the grant has been given to the town schools, in all of which English is taught, and the teaching has been inspected by the Education Department. The number of candidates at the English Examinations has been well maintained. The number at this year's examinations were as follows :—

English Ordinary	158 candidates—53 passed.
English Distinction	22 candidates— 7 passed.
English Honour	Nil. Nil.

There is no doubt that the knowledge of English is extending greatly in the island ; the number of candidates for the English ordinary in previous years never exceeded 95.

The other examinations conducted by the Chief Inspector of Schools were Turkish and Greek, Preliminary and Ordinary, and Civil Service, the number of candidates being 9, 5, 27, 22, and 23 respectively.

All parents who can afford the expense desire to give their boys higher education, but unfortunately when the boys have shed their village clothes and adopted the modern garb of the towns and have passed a few classes in the different secondary schools, and become accustomed to town life they are apt to become too proud to work any longer with their hands. When they return to their villages for the holidays they disdain to do any work, and will not even fetch a pitcher of water from the spring, and they are even encouraged by their parents in the idea that "educated" men must not soil their hands. In consequence the majority lie in bed all day, or loaf in the streets or in the cafés, whilst their fathers and mothers work for them. In this way a class of youths is growing up, fit for nothing but clerical work, of which there is not enough for all in Cyprus, and this class increases yearly. In normal years this tendency is covered somewhat by the relief found in emigration to places where the Greek business instincts can find scope, but this year, in consequence of the war, the surplus is very evident.

The Village Committee elections, and the appointment of school-masters continues to be the cause of frequent strife and ill feeling, and in one case during the year the murder of the Mukhtar was the direct

result of this. Both sides often appeal to the Education Department or the Commissioner to intervene, and although by the exercise of tact and understanding quarrels are frequently averted in this way, there is no compulsory power to prevent them before they result in an actual crime or breach of the peace.

MEDICAL.

The sanitary condition and the general health of the island during the year have been satisfactory.

A new Rural Station was founded during the year in the Nicosia district, at Lithrodonta, making a total throughout the island of 14, which practically completes the Rural Service of the island.

One case of small-pox occurred in Nicosia in April, 1914, but immediate measures of isolation, quarantine, and vaccination were adopted, with the result that the disease did not spread and was limited to this one case only. In May the disease again occurred in a mountain village, Alona, having developed in a woman who had returned from a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, but owing to vigorous measures of isolation the disease did not spread, there being only four contact cases. A total of 7,187 vaccinations were performed during the year.

341 cases of enteric fever occurred, eight of which proved fatal. The disease continues mild in character as a rule, but there was a severe and sudden outbreak in the month of July in the town of Larnaca, resulting in about 100 cases.

There were 13 cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis, with eight deaths, as against 25 cases during the previous year.

There is also a reduction in diphtheria, eight cases with three deaths being reported as against 21 cases in the previous year. Scarlet fever occurred for the first time for many years, there being six cases in Larnaca. The disease was reported as mild in type and scarlatinal in form.

The Anti-Malarial Campaign, begun in 1913 after the visit to Cyprus of Sir Ronald Ross, K.C.B., F.R.S., was continued with vigour during the year under review, and resulted in a further reduction of malarial cases. So far as the campaign was concerned, however, the year was an unfavourable one, the winter being a mild one favourable for the breeding of mosquitoes, which were found living in wells, etc., during the coldest months of the year. Exceptionally heavy rains also fell during the months of November and December, 1913, and there were heavy and late spring rains in 1914. Notwithstanding these unfavourable conditions, all districts, with the exception of Larnaca, which shows an increase of 44 cases, show a reduction on the returns of the previous year, the total reduction amounting to 720 cases.

Generally speaking the disease takes the benign form, pernicious and malignant cases being rarer. The mortality is very low; details for those attending out-patient dispensaries are wanting, but the

returns for diseases and deaths show that there were only seven deaths out of a total of 365 cases admitted to the hospitals as in-patients, equal to 1·6 per cent.

A more extensive spleen census has been taken this year, and much care and interest has been taken by the medical officers in the examination of children. A total of 26,941 were examined during the months of October, November, and December, 1914, at the end of the malarial season; of these 22,799 were found without enlargement, 3,125 were returned with slight enlargement, 792 and 225 had medium and great enlargement of the organ respectively. These figures give a spleen rate of 15·3, showing a gradual and steady reduction on the rates of the previous year.

Under the supervision of the Sanitary Engineer, extensive anti-malarial works were carried out, chiefly in the Larnaca and Famagusta districts. New drains to the extent of 64,096 feet have been cut, and 134,905 feet of existing drains were cleared or improved, and 218,056 cubic feet of marsh land filled in. Extensive and important drainage works were carried out in St. Lazarus and Bamboula marshes in Larnaca, and at the villages of Livadhia and Voroklini near that town, and these measures should have a beneficial effect on the health of the town and district during the coming year.

Larvicide substances were extensively used throughout the year, and experiments in these substances were continued. As a result of experiments it has been found that the addition of a small quantity of the substance hitherto used—a compound of crude carbolic, caustic soda, and resin—to crude oil causes rapid spreading, and very much increases its efficiency.

Two of the chief difficulties encountered in the work of mosquito reduction are due to wells and cesspits, both of which are prolific breeding places for mosquitoes. Cyprus has, generally speaking, a deficient rainfall, and wells have to be used to supplement the supply for domestic purposes. The use of larvicides is precluded, filling in is equally impossible except in isolated cases, and screening and covering is almost impracticable on account of expense. A house to house visit within the municipal area of Nicosia revealed 830 wells and 315 cesspits in use. The difficulties of finding in Cyprus, particularly in the large towns, adequate supplies of water suitable for domestic use forms an obstacle to introducing a system of reservoirs and filter beds with pipe distribution, which might otherwise mitigate the evils arising from the use of wells and cesspits.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

Nicosia General Hospital. This is the only Government hospital in the island, and has accommodation for 53 beds. 1,175 patients were admitted during the year, which, with 35 patients remaining from last year, makes a total of 1,210 patients treated, against 1,102 for last year. There were 41 deaths, against 63 for last year, giving a death-rate of 3·3 per cent., against 5·7 for last year. The number of out-patients was 5,832, against 5,241 for last year. Twenty cases of consumption were admitted, with 8 deaths, against 17 cases and 9 deaths

last year. These patients were accommodated in a detached building well removed from the general wards, and it has proved of great service in dealing with cases amongst the poor and destitute of the town of Nicosia. The maternity wards have treated 27 cases during the year, as against 13 in the previous year. The training of native midwives, who are taken from all parts of the island, has been a marked and very beneficial feature of these wards.

A striking feature of the institution is the amount of surgical work carried out during the year. 409 operations were performed, a large proportion being for abdominal cases.

The hospital is now being equipped with electric light, and an X-ray apparatus is being set up.

The district hospitals of Larnaca, Limassol, Paphos, Famagusta, and Kyrenia, which are supported by Government, carried out excellent work during the year. A new building is being erected at Famagusta, rendered necessary by the extensive development of the town and port. The hospital at Larnaca has been greatly improved during recent years, the wards being now tiled throughout and thus rendered much more sanitary than with the old wood flooring which was difficult to keep clean. 1,941 out-patients were admitted during the year as against 1,976 during the previous year.

LEPER FARM.

The number of inmates is at present 97. There were 12 admissions during the year, and 10 deaths. All classes and stages of the disease are met with in the farm. Anaesthetic, tubercular, and mixed varieties exist.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The inmates at present number 92. During the year 25 cases of insanity were admitted, 9 cases died, and 8 were discharged cured or relieved. The chief cause of the increase is the transfer of criminal lunatics from the prisons of the island to the asylum. All kinds of mental diseases are met with, but dementia and epilepsy are commonest.

GOVERNMENT LABORATORY.

The number of samples analysed by the Government Analyst during the year was 1,759, an increase of 584 over the previous year; 412 preparations were made. Of the samples analysed 279 were in connection with criminal cases, as compared with 197 for the previous year.

There has been an increase of 528 samples of food analysed as compared with the previous year, and the percentage of adulterated samples shows an advance from 13·8 to 15·7, due mainly to the adulteration of pepper and curdled milk. The percentage of adulterated samples of flour has decreased, and the quality of flour improved, although several samples were found unfit for food. Great

attention was paid during the year to curdled milk, and of 65 samples examined 42 were found to be adulterated with alum. Alum retards digestion, is an astringent, a purgative in drachm doses, and an emetic in repeated doses: taken internally in doses of more than 15 grains it is injurious to health. It is only added to curdled milk to make the latter set quickly, and its addition is unnecessary: since these analyses were instituted the makers of curdled milk have practically ceased to add alum. It is satisfactory to note, with regard to mineral waters, that the 10 samples which were analysed were found to be not only pure, but well manufactured. Of the 21 samples of drinking water analysed during the year 19 were of good quality and 2 were unfit for drinking purposes.

Besides the work of analysing samples and making preparations, and giving expert evidence in criminal cases at the Magisterial and Assize Courts of the island, the Government Analyst gave during the year a course of 104 lectures and demonstrations in elementary theoretical and practical chemistry, and the allied sciences. Five of the pupils passed the examination, and were awarded the Government certificate.

POLICE AND PRISONS.

POLICE.

The police force was during the months of September and October, 1914, temporarily increased by the enrolment of some 70 additional men, owing to the situation then prevailing and the desirability of bringing the strength of each of the six police divisions up to their full complement of fully trained men, but by the end of March the establishment of non-commissioned officers and men was reduced to normality, though the number of officers was three short of the authorised establishment, two vacancies existing amongst the Local Commandants, and one amongst the Inspectors.

The police band was, in September, 1914, dissolved as a temporary and experimental measure, thus setting free for active police duty a native officer and 24 non-commissioned officers and men, a great part of whose time had hitherto been devoted to training for and performing their musical duties.

Great efforts have been made during the past year to improve the training of recruits, in order that every new member of the force should have a thorough grounding in drill and police duties before being posted to duty. The normal length of the course of instruction of recruits at the Dépôt is 12 weeks. A new appointment of Dépôt Instructor was created, the post being filled by an officer of considerable experience in the police force of the United Kingdom, fully qualified to instruct in police duties, detection of crime, the finger print system, and other matters. Six progressive instructional manuals have been compiled and printed in English, Turkish, and Greek, and these are

now in use at the Dépôt, and copies have been issued to divisional headquarters for assisting the officers in periodical lectures to the rank and file. A book of "Duty Hints" for non-commissioned officers and men has also been compiled and will shortly be issued in the three languages to all literate rank and file in the force. With a view further to increasing the efficiency of the force arrangements were made during the year for the establishment at certain district headquarters of tuition classes for the illiterate members of the force, and instructing them in Turkish and Greek. Out of a total of 762 non-commissioned officers and men, including those detailed as prison warders, 645 could read and write one or more languages.

There is an open manège at the dépôt. Recruits of the mounted branch are put through a course in equitation, and trained in mounted infantry drill. On 31st March, 1915, there were 267 horses enrolled and actually on the strength of the force. Compensation amounting to £101.10.8 cp., was paid to members of the police force for loss of, or injury to, their mounts.

During the year 107 non-commissioned officers and men were re-engaged on completion of their 5 years limited engagements; 9 refused re-engagement; 6 purchased their discharge; 38 were discharged with gratuities as "physically unfit for further service"; 21 were struck off the strength of the force on account of comparative inefficiency, and 23 were dismissed on account of misconduct. Gratuities amounting to £1,510.6.1cp. were paid to non-commissioned officers and men on their discharge from the service.

There were 285 breaches of discipline during the year, 225 of which were minor cases. The number of admissions to hospital was 529, and there were 817 cases of out-door treatment; the daily average of non-commissioned officers and men on the sick list during the year was 11.71.

The conduct and discipline of the force throughout the year were satisfactory; all ranks show keenness and zeal in the discharge of their duties and make every effort to attain increased efficiency. Since the proclamation of Martial Law in Cyprus in August, 1914, extra work has devolved on the police, who have rendered much assistance in the taking of a census of grain, the examination of strangers arriving in the island and their subsequent supervision, the posting of Proclamations and Notices (of which approximately 47,000 were posted by the police), and in many other ways,

PRISONS.

The total number of persons committed during the year in the whole island was 5,579, against 4,905 during the previous year; 4,827 were cases of penal imprisonment, of which 3,059, or nearly 65 per cent., were in respect of default of payment of fines, costs, village road taxes, school fees, etc.

The total cost of the island prisons during the year amounted to £7,808.2.5cp., against £7,132.4cp. for the previous year, making the cost per head per diem 7.80cp., which is reduced to 3.84cp. by

taking into account the value of industrial and other work performed by the convicts. The increase in expenditure is due principally to an increase in pay granted to the prison staff, and partly to the higher rates of contract prices of articles supplied both locally and from the United Kingdom. The total value of industrial and other labour performed by the convicts during the year is estimated at £3,968. The industrial work comprises tailoring, bootmaking, carpentering, baking, cooking, weaving, dyeing, masonry, brush and stocking making, etc., etc. Besides this a number of convicts, more especially juveniles, are employed on the Prison Farm at the Central Prison, Nicosia; some cows have been transferred temporarily from the Government Stock Farm at Athalassa and juvenile convicts are taught dairy work. Barley, oats, favetta, and vetches are grown on the Prison Farm and the proceeds from the sale of this and of the milk produced by the six cows kept on the farm during the year, amounted to £177 12s. 6d., the expenditure being £103 16s. 0d.

From the 1st April, 1914, the extra duty pay granted to non-commissioned officers and men performing the duty of warders in the prison service was increased to 4cp. a day, with a view to attracting men of good physique, education, and character to come forward as volunteers from amongst the members of the police force from whom warders are chosen, and with whom the duty has not hitherto been very popular. The Inspector of Prisons reports that the increase has resulted in a marked improvement in the element employed as subordinate staff in the prison service. There were 7 grave and 10 minor offences recorded against warders during the year; 12 men were fined and 4 reprimanded. The establishment of warders consists of 7 sergeants, 6 corporals, and 67 first and second-class privates.

The general sanitary condition of the prisons has been satisfactory; there was no epidemic or disease of an unusual or serious nature during the year. The District Medical Officers have reported that the general health of the prisoners during the year was excellent. The daily average number of prisoners on the sick list during the year was 8·44 with a daily average prison population of 492·80. Six deaths occurred in the Central Prison and three in the Paphos Prison. No execution took place during the year.

The conduct of prisoners has been good and the prison discipline well maintained throughout the year. The principal offences were idleness, disobedience of orders, and other minor offences against prison discipline, though five acts of violence were committed by felon convicts on warders, three of which, not being aggravated, were punished by solitary confinement with six days bread and water. In the remaining two cases the punishment of flogging was inflicted. 508 prison offences were reported during the year, 388 of which were dealt with by bread and water diet from one to seven days.

The Central Prison at Nicosia was improved during the year by the addition of a punishment block containing 14 separate cells, and a school building of two rooms. In addition to this the premises originally erected for the accommodation of criminal lunatics have

been converted, with certain additions and alterations, into an isolation ward, criminal lunatics being now accommodated in the new Lunatic Asylum.

A prison was established during the year, as an experiment, at the village of Rizo Carpass in the Famagusta district, the forest hut being set apart and gazetted as a prison, and the forester appointed as convict guard in charge. Short service prisoners from the neighbouring district, instead of being marched into Famagusta to undergo their sentence, were detained in this prison and employed in the forest garden and plantations. The total number of prisoners received into this prison during the period 1st May, 1914, to 31st March, 1915, was 67, and the total cost amounted to £4.16.4cp.

JUDICIAL AND CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of persons brought before the magistrates during the year was 22,154, an increase of 3,340 over the number last year. Of these only 2,549 were discharged for want of prosecution, instead of 3,243 the previous year, which would appear to be an indication of greater care on the part of the police. There were 4,952 more summary convictions than there were the previous year, another indication of better police work. Of the 22,154 persons brought before the magistrates only 1,700 were sentenced to imprisonment. The remainder of the summary cases were considered to be of a nature which might adequately be punished by a fine.

The homicides brought before the magisterial courts amounted to 26 as against 29 last year; of these three cases were homicide by misadventure, for which small punishment was inflicted. In all there were 35 persons charged with homicide; three were discharged for want of prosecution and 32 were committed for trial. Of the 32 committed for trial one was convicted of murder, four of child murder, 18 of manslaughter (*i.e.*, killing without premeditation) and seven were acquitted; two were tried after the expiration of the year; no one was executed. The character of the murders was of a less savage nature than in some previous years. There were three cases of attempt to murder, and eight cases of assault with intent to kill. Seven persons were convicted of an attempt to murder and four of assault with intent to kill, and there were four persons acquitted.

"The election of village officials," the Chief Justice writes in his report on Criminal Statistics for the year, "is a fruitful source of crime." "Not only are the persons elected," he states in another part of his report, "unsuited to their position, but the holding of the elections stirs up bad feeling and hostility among the people, which is frequently a cause of crime."

It is unfortunate that the person elected as Mukhtar is in many cases the money lender of the village, who by virtue of his office has to sell up the villagers in execution of the judgments he has obtained against them. In a case recently tried there was a charge of attempting

to shoot the Mukhtar. The defence, which turned on a question of identity, was that there were at least six or seven people likely to shoot him, that he was the chief money lender of the village, and that he had to seek police protection when going from his house to the café. In view of the fact that a Mukhtar is by law invested with the powers of a zaptieh, a more ridiculous state of affairs can hardly be imagined.

There was a great falling off in rape cases during the year, 6 cases being tried in the superior courts against 12 in the previous year.

As regards the local Magisterial Courts, out of the total of 22,154 cases taken before the magistrates during the year, 6,016 were taken before the local courts.

There were 28 criminal appeals to the Supreme Court, in 20 of which the convictions were confirmed, and in the remaining 8 the conviction was quashed.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, AND TELEPHONES.

The number of various classes of correspondence dealt with during the year is estimated at 2,391,628, a decrease of 144,782 over the previous year, the decrease being due to war conditions, which have seriously affected the amount of correspondence dealt with.

The local letters and parcels posted show a small increase of 2,786 and 936 respectively, the former of which would under normal circumstances have been much larger. The postcards and book packets show a small decrease of 1,544 and 1,376 respectively and a marked decrease in the returns of local newspapers of 12,722 due, in great part, to the cessation of five local newspapers. The number of letters, etc., posted for foreign countries show a total decrease of 54,286 and those received of 78,576.

The number of registered letters posted were:—Local, 16,452; Foreign, 20,180; and those received from abroad 25,919, making a total of 62,551, a decrease of 18,849 over last year.

The principal articles exported by Parcel Post were cigarettes, 2,569,450, value £2,396, a small increase over last year; Cyprus embroidery, value £647, a decrease of £591; native dress stuff, value £726, a decrease of £474; cinematograph films, value £989, a decrease of £3,891, and antiquities £210.

The number of parcels received from the United Kingdom was 6,711, a decrease of only 5 parcels. The suspension of the parcel service with enemy countries resulted in a decrease estimated at 1,349 parcels.

The number of letter packets containing dutiable articles was 4,602, value £2,158, on which duty to the amount of £211.19.7cp. was collected and paid to the Customs Department. These figures

show an increase of about 100 per cent. over last year, the increase being mainly due to a popular method of obtaining watches from Switzerland by means of the purchase and sale of coupons.

The number of undelivered postal packets, including packets bearing no address, dealt with during the year was 16,569, while 5,912 postal packets were returned to foreign countries. The increase in the amount of correspondence dealt with in this branch of the service is principally due to the number of mails for enemy countries returned to Cyprus without being forwarded to their destinations.

The number of money orders issued during the year was 6,358, amounting to £40,320; 7,986 were paid, amounting in value to £48,325. Inland Money Orders show a satisfactory increase, and are constantly used for transmitting money to Paphos for purchases of carobs, silk cocoons, etc., no banking facilities existing in that town. A considerable decrease occurred in money orders received from abroad, owing to the cessation of that service during the first three months after the beginning of hostilities.

British postal orders issued and paid during the year showed a satisfactory increase and amounted to 2,713, of a total value of £1,627.

Local mails amounted to 35,834, an increase over last year of 1,248, and were conveyed over 316,964 miles, an increase of 3,744. The rural mail service covers practically the whole of the island, and few villages of any importance are not in direct postal communication. A new section embracing the large villages of Akacha and Peristerona was established; these villages were formerly served by mail cart, but on the extension of the railway to Morphou this was discontinued. Some difficulty is experienced in obtaining agents at villages to perform the postal work satisfactorily, but a general trend towards improvement in this service is observed. Periodical visits to the rural mail sections by the officers in charge of the District Post Offices have been arranged, and this method of regular inspections will, it is hoped, greatly improve the rural mail service.

The number of inward mails dealt with in the Sea Post Office and received by regular mail steamers was 4,234, a decrease of 780 mails. The number of outward mails was 1,802, a decrease of 524 mails, the decrease being due to the cessation of the service by French and Austrian steamers since August, 1914.

The revenue received from all sources amounted to £7,984, to which must be added £1,546, the value of franked correspondence. This gives a decrease over last year's revenue of £920, mostly due to the dislocation of commerce subsequent to the declaration of war and the moratorium established to adjust the situation.

The expenditure of the Department during the year was £6,786, an increase of £483 over last year, due mainly to a general increase of pay. This sum does not include £4,897 paid to the subsidized steamer, the annual subsidy to which provides weekly transport for agricultural produce and cattle, together with a regular means of communication for passengers between Egypt and Cyprus.

The motor service between Nicosia, Larnaca, and Limassol has been irregular on account of the inadequate number of effective motors which have been available to meet the requirements of the service, and on this account the mails have had frequently to be conveyed by carriages.

The offices of the Imperial Ottoman Telegraph were closed on the outbreak of war with Turkey, and no transactions have since taken place.

Some additions to the telephone system connecting the various Government offices in Nicosia were made during the year, and a small telephone system was erected in Larnaca to connect the various Government offices in that town.

AGRICULTURE.

The Agricultural Department has been greatly extended and its staff increased during the past two years, and with its extension and greater power of activity a corresponding increase of interest is being shown towards it by the agricultural classes. Whereas some years ago the department was scarcely known, and was regarded with misgiving and suspicion by those for whose benefit it primarily existed, there is now happily a marked and growing feeling of trust and regard, as manifested by numerous applications daily received from all parts of the country. Some 13,800 letters were received and sent, and 522 Departmental Circulars issued during the course of the year, while 1,460 visits were made by the staff and 764 villages inspected.

An attempt was made during the year to concentrate the efforts of the department mainly on the development of the silkworm rearing industry, the introduction of new crops for human and for cattle food, extending and improving the cultivation of fruit and other trees, and combatting insect and fungus pests. More might have been accomplished under these heads had not the department been already committed to a variety of other work which could not be abandoned, which occupied a large share of the time of the staff and made serious inroads upon the funds available. The special works mentioned above will require the sustained attention of the department for some years. The silk industry for instance is one which is susceptible of very considerable development and improvement and is of special interest as it affords remunerative occupation to a large number of small people each of whom can obtain therefrom a small profit, and the total annual revenue to the island should in time amount to a very appreciable figure. Connected with this is the mulberry cultivation. The war points the necessity of familiarizing the people with new kinds of food for themselves and their cattle, and it is satisfactory to note that among the former rye, oats, and Indian corn are becoming popular, while Indian corn, lucerne, reana (teosinte), berseem (Egyptian clover), and mangel wurzel are now being grown in several parts of the island. At present cattle-feeding as an industry is altogether unknown, and yet there are many well watered localities in the

island where the systematic breeding of cattle could be profitably carried on. A good number of cattle are annually exported, and it is of the utmost importance that the supply of cattle should be maintained and increased. The indirect advantage of this to the soil of Cyprus from a manurial point of view cannot be exaggerated.

It would be as interesting as it is difficult to estimate the average amount of revenue lost to the farming community by ravages from insect and fungoid pests. Every year crop after crop suffers from one or other of these pests, and the already small profits of farmers and gardeners undergo a serious reduction. The damage done to vines by the blight known as *Oidium tuckeri* and to carob trees by the ravages of the insect known as *Cecidomyia Ceratoniae* have seriously affected the prosperity of the large number of persons who are either in whole or part dependent on the vine and the carob industries, and the department has made determined efforts to reduce the evils resulting from these pests and to discover means of eradicating them. With regard to the former the sulphuring of vines is becoming more widely adopted as vine-owners realise its efficacy in preventing disease, and the action of Government in importing large stocks and placing them in centres where they can be purchased at small cost has had most gratifying results.

In combatting the carob scourge the department has shown no less activity, and had at its disposal a sum of £2,000, which was voted this year for the improvement of carob cultivation, a matter of the utmost importance to the island in view of the fact that the value of the carob export amounts to nearly one-third of the total export trade of Cyprus. The life history of the *Cecidomyia Ceratoniae* was under continuous and most careful examination for several months, and the living insect was microscopically examined throughout its various stages, with the result that a definite opinion could be formed as to the best means of combatting it. The most complete means would, however, necessitate special legislation, compelling all carob tree owners whose trees were infected, to apply certain drastic remedies, and in the absence of such special legislation it was decided, on the advice of the Inspector of Agriculture, to adopt a general system of pruning. This work could not be regarded as a cure for the carob disease, but it was thought that the removal of dead wood and superfluous branches would help to invigorate the trees and add to their productivity, as well as render more easy the task of removing the stunted fruit and the flowers another year. Pruning operations began in the Government forests and on certain privately owned areas, and continued from August till about the middle of February. Nearly a quarter of a million trees were pruned during this period and it is hoped that the result will be highly beneficial to this most important industry.

The year was marked by the appearance of a large number of destructive insects. Fortunately it was possible to meet this state of things to some extent, as four ex-students of the Agricultural School had been specially trained in some of the practical work of combatting insects. It is very satisfactory to find that farmers and gardeners are now reporting insect and fungus attacks far more generally than formerly was the case, and are willing to have their crops sprayed, and to pay for the insecticides.

The island this year had a visitation from that enemy to corn-growers, the Hessian fly (*Cecidomyia destructor*). It has, no doubt, been present in former years, but owing to the fact that the department was not then organized to deal with such pests, it was not reported and its ravages were probably attributed to the weather or other causes. As soon as its presence was known, steps were taken to combat it, and farmers were advised as to the preventive measures which should be taken, but it is doubtful if these will at once be generally followed. In many localities the loss of crop this year was estimated as high as 60 per cent., and further reduction of yield must be expected so long as this most destructive insect, which is allied to that bane of the carob tree, the *Cecidomyia Ceratoniae*, retains the upper hand.

A serious vine pest in the neighbourhood of Omodhos, Mandria, etc., has for several years caused much damage and baffled investigation. It was again reported last summer, and the entomologist was in consequence sent to Omodhos, taking with him his microscopical appliances, in order to make a thorough examination on the spot. He eventually attributed the trouble to a thrips, but the exact identity of the particular species of thrips is still under expert study in England. The cause of the damage having been ascertained, the necessary advice as to treatment was given and it is hoped that this pest will now cease to affect to any serious extent the vineyards of Cyprus.

Specimens of insects and diseased plants were received from every part of the island and a large number of departmental reports regarding the treatment to be applied have been issued to agriculturists, whose losses from these causes must have been materially lessened.

There is at present no separate branch for pathology and mycology, and the study of those numerous diseases that come under these heads; the examination of, and report upon, the many specimens submitted are all dealt with in the entomological laboratory. The work is of great importance to the agriculture of the island, and it is hoped in time to strengthen the technical staff so as to allow of this branch of research work being carried out in a more methodical and thorough manner than is at present possible.

Among the various subjects which have come under special investigation this year may be mentioned more particularly that of the sexual development of the carob flower and the frequent non-fertilization in Cyprus of the pistachio tree. As regards the former a study by the entomologist has been sent, together with herbarium specimens, slide preparations, etc., to the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Research work regarding the latter is still in progress. Much disease prevails among the nuts and walnuts of the island, and it is hoped to investigate this next season with a view to discovering remedial measures.

This year a great advance has been made in the local employment of chemical manures, which has been largely due to the enterprise of a few business firms who have secured agencies for various manufacturers in Europe, and who have energetically made known to the Cypriot farmers the advantages to be gained by their use. In many cases excellent results have been obtained. The use of these fertilizers

has long been general throughout the agricultural world, and, indeed, they may be regarded as essential to successful farming. Yet probably no article of commerce is more systematically adulterated during the course of handling than chemical manures. The department has been occupied in carrying out a series of analyses in order to ascertain to what extent, if any, adulteration takes place here, and with a view to making proposals for controlling the trade. It would appear that the quality as imported is usually true to type, but that it undergoes much change before reaching the small consumer. Much useful information has been gained by the department and imparted to farmers, through the application of various combinations of these fertilizers on the experimental plots and in village demonstrations. This work is likely to be of considerable practical value in making known to farmers the profitable use of these manures, but it will probably be necessary to impose regulations to safeguard the consumer from fraud and adulteration.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

One member of the Agricultural staff was sent abroad during the year to study, first to Egypt to receive practical instruction in cotton-growing, and subsequently to Greece to study viticulture and cotton sowing. One member returned from France after undergoing a thorough training in basket making.

The Agricultural School was attended by 17 Greek Christian and five Turkish students, and it was found possible to select from amongst the last school year's students a certain number who were sufficiently well qualified to justify their employment in the Department in one or other of the main branches of skilled work. But it is hoped that the majority of students who complete the course of instruction in the school will return to their farms and put into practice the knowledge which they have acquired in the course of their studies.

By an arrangement made with the Education Department a certain number of lectures on agriculture were given during the year by members of the Agricultural Department in rural schools, and these have been well received and are distinctly beneficial. A course of instruction in agriculture was also given, both in Nicosia and Limassol, to schoolmasters, the attendance numbering 23 Moslems and 94 Greek Christians. Practical instruction was given in the Government gardens, and also on private properties, and the Government Stock Farm at Athalassa was also visited.

GOVERNMENT STOCK FARM.

One boar, two sows, and some poultry were imported during the year from England, and six oxen were purchased locally.

The number of animals served at Athalassa during the year was 96 mares, 176 donkeys, 132 cows, and 60 sows.

The result of the mares served at Athalassa during the year 1913 by the two thoroughbred stallions, "Huckle-my-Buff" and "Temeraire" were 20 colts and 16 fillies, and by the Suffolk Punch stallion, "Henham Happy," two colts and one filly.

One of the ostriches on the farm laid nine eggs, eight of which were put into the incubator, but all proved unfertile.

Three stud stables were inaugurated during the year in different parts of the Island, at Larnaca, Kyrenia and Yiallousa (Carpas) at each of which it is proposed to maintain, as funds permit, a stallion, a bull, a jack donkey, and a boar. In this way it is hoped to distribute over the island the valuable stock which has been imported during the past few years.

A scheme has also been tried for placing out temporarily with farmers half-bred milch cows, a qualified man from the Government Stock Farm accompanying them and remaining a month to give instruction in the matter of feeding and milking. Owing, however, to the difficulty of obtaining half-bred cows of sufficiently good quality in full milk and at a reasonable price, it has not been found possible to continue the scheme, the one cow sent out having died of anthrax.

VETERINARY.

Outbreaks of anthrax occurred at various villages throughout the Island during the year, and also amongst the pigs at the Government Stock Farm, but prompt measures were taken in each case to prevent the spread of the disease, the villages being placed in quarantine and visited by the Veterinary Surgeon.

No quarter-ill was reported during the year, but there were a few outbreaks of sheep-pox in the Nicosia District.

6,384 animals were examined for export during the year, the fees taken amounting to £190 7s. 7cp. This number is much below the average owing to prohibition regarding the export of animals imposed after the outbreak of war.

FORESTS.

The revenue obtained by the Forest Department shows a slight decrease over that obtained the previous year, amounting to £10,299, as against £11,275, the falling off being due partly to the war and partly to fear of agricultural depression.

Seventy forest fires occurred during the year, the number of trees burned being estimated at 70,246. Statistics worked out by the department for the past 29 years record during that period 1,610 forest fires, over a total area of 39,585 acres, the number of pine trees destroyed amounting to 415,457. Valuing each acre of forest at £3, the damage done is estimated at £118,755. The annual average shows 55 fires, 1,365 acres, 13,636 pines, and £4,095 worth of damage. As the amount spent on plantations during the past year was £4,274, it is to be observed that only a little more than the estimated annual value of forest destroyed by fire is being replaced.

The work of cutting fire protection and fire paths in the forest has been continued vigorously, 32 miles of new paths being made, whilst the existing 359 miles of forest paths were kept in repair.

The plantations all over the Island were added to by close on half a million seedlings, which included eucalyptus, wattles, cypress, and casuarinas. Besides these, 1,784 acres were sown down with various seeds.

The number of labourers employed by the Department was 118,849, an increase of 6,753 over last year, while 17,498 carts and animals were employed.

The saw-mills worked throughout the year, the value of the timber turned out amounting to £3,670, against an expenditure of £2,150, which shows a profit of £1,520, or 71 per cent. The number of pine trees felled at the saw-mills was 4,506.

The receipts of the timber stores this year show a decrease of £934, being £8,886 against £9,820 last year; the falling off in sales is due to the war and general agricultural depression. The value of the stock in hand on 1st April, 1915, was £6,843 against £2,045 last year, and sales have recently been very brisk, so that there is every prospect of a large revenue being obtained this year, especially as supplies of timber from Asia Minor and Trieste have been cut off by the war and the island is thrown on its own resources.

In the Carpass the system was adopted of giving a certain area required for re-forestation, to a charcoal burner under agreement to clear. Having done this and burnt the charcoal, the produce was weighed and on this weight he paid a prescribed fee (6 paras per oke) and removed the charcoal, and sold it on his own account.

During the year there were 5,386 offences against the Forest Law, against 5,694 for the previous year.

The working of the Goats Law of 1913 has been most instructive and interesting. In the Kilani Nahieh of the Limassol district 20 out of 43 villages have taken advantage of the Goats Law, thus voluntarily abolishing goats from their villages, and the number of villages throughout the Island which have so far taken advantage of the law is 52, of which 31 have had privileges of grazing in the forest.

The effect of the Goats Law will be that, in addition to preserving the property of the villagers, the destruction of the forests will be mitigated. There are some 250,000 goats in the Island, and the damage done each year by each goat is estimated as amounting to not less than ten shillings. Consequently the damage done by the goats in the Island may be estimated at not less than £125,000 every year, a sum probably exceeding the total value of the goats themselves. Last year there were grazing in the forests 50,730 goats and the damage done by them in eating down forest growth, seedlings, etc., is estimated at £25,000. This tends to show that the sooner the goat is exterminated from Cyprus the better it will be for the prosperity of the Island, which depends so much on its forests, its agriculture, and its arboriculture.

LAND REGISTRY AND SURVEY.

There was a remarkable decrease in the receipts of the Land Registry Department during the year owing chiefly to the effect of the Moratorium imposed in consequence of the war and transactions connected therewith, and partly to the falling off of compulsory registration fees owing to a poor harvest in the Famagusta district and to the effect of the war on economic conditions, the receipts during the year under review amounting to £1,277 as against £2,186 during the previous year.

The cost of the department was £20,468, of which £8,220 may be taken as the cost of revenue-producing work; the revenue obtained amounted to £10,761, exclusive of £1,277 compulsory registration fees under Law XII of 1907, which gives a percentage of cost of revenue-producing work to revenue of 76·38 as against 49·20 during the preceding year. Though on the one hand there was a decrease in the revenue of the department owing to abnormal conditions, on the other hand there was an increase in the cost owing to the general increase in salaries granted during the year; but notwithstanding this the revenue more than covered the cost.

Registration of Title. Titles to 47,655 parcels of property were issued during the year, and 1,829 copies of registrations, making a total of 49,484 transactions, the average for the last five years being 55,895.

Registration of Mortgages. During the year 2,343 mortgages were registered, affecting 13,932 properties and securing debt to the amount of £116,064. The cancellations of mortgage, including foreclosures, were 1,676, affecting 11,666 properties. This class of security is generally resorted to by money lenders.

Other attachments of property for debt. This branch of work showed a slight decrease, the number of attachments being 6,349, as against 6,586 during the previous year.

Local Enquiries. Here again there was a decrease, the number during the year amounting to 5,693, as against 7,108 during the previous year.

Searches. 2,815 were made, as against 3,114 during the previous year; in addition, 495 searches were made for the Revenue Department in connection with the prosecution of defaulting taxpayers, and 17 searches were made for the Agricultural Bank.

Writs of Sale. The registered value of property sold amounted to £22,301, the price realised being £22,086 and the debts sought to be recovered £33,846. There were 74 Government forced sales for recovery of taxes and compulsory registration fees during the year, the debt in every case being recovered in full. The ratio of price realised to registered value is low, and arises from the fact that there is little or no competition at these sales, the property being usually bought in for a nominal sum by the family or relatives of the debtor, who generally is left in possession. As regards forced sales in private actions there was a decrease of 731, the decrease being due entirely to the Moratorium imposed in consequence of war conditions.

In addition to the work summarised above 496 particulars of Verghi Kimat assessment were issued, and 817 plans made, whilst the department gave assistance in the acquisition of land for the railway extension from Morphou to Evrykhon.

The assessment of Verghi Kimat was made as usual, the figures being £31,454 against £31,998 during the previous year. The decrease is due to the enforcement of the provision of Law XIII of 1913 whereby the normal rate of 4 per cent. may be increased or decreased as the case may be on the completion of the valuation under Law XII of 1907 in a town or village so as to yield in the aggregate the sum that was levied in that town or village at the time of the coming into operation of the valuation. This provision was applied during the year to seven towns and villages in the Larnaca district, and 30 in the Famagusta district, and as a result the rate was reduced below the normal 4 per cent. in 29 cases and increased above it in eight cases, the lowest rate being 1 per cent. and the highest $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The whole assessment represents an increase in the value of property brought under assessment of about £44,234.

The number of estates in respect of which Verghi was distributed amounted to 3,996, the value distributed being £215,311.

CADASTRAL SURVEY.

Early in March, 1914, the surveyor who had been engaged in carrying out the observations of the major triangulation was obliged to abandon work and return to England on account of illness. After a short delay the work was resumed and eventually completed, owing to the kindness of the Egyptian Government in lending the services of a trained surveyor, who arrived in Cyprus on the 9th April, and proceeded forthwith to measure the fundamental azimuth at Famagusta. By August 3rd, 1914, in spite of adverse climatic and atmospheric conditions, the observations of the outstanding points were completed.

The positions of major triangulation stations have been marked by strongly fixing iron belts into the ground with cement, over which have been built fixed cairns of stones and mortar with a hole in the middle of each, into which a flagstaff can be inserted when required.

The statistics of the major triangulation from September, 1913, to August, 1914, show the extent covered by triangulation as 3,420 square miles, the number of stations occupied 46, lines observed 111, number of triangles 65, and average length of side in miles 12.3. The cost amounted to £1,484, giving an average of 0.434£ per square mile; this does not include the cost of computation.

Minor Triangulation. Operations for minor triangulation have proceeded in Larnaca district, the Messaoria and Kyrenia, and in the East Carpass. In Larnaca district the reconnaissance for 3rd and 4th order triangulation commenced in January, 1914, and continued till 27th April, 1914, when observations were immediately taken in hand. At the end of June, 1914, operations were suspended till 1st February, 1915, when observations and reconnaissance were

resumed conjointly, and are now proceeding. In the East Carpass at the eastern extremity, where 3rd order triangulation had been carried out previously, but no 4th order points fixed, traverses have been fixed, and observed 4th order points by means of 5-inch vernier theodolites.

Theodolite Traverse. On 1st April, 1914, an area of 80 square miles, approximately, of the eastern portion of the Carpass Nahieh remained to be traversed, all of which has been completed. It is proposed to survey the portion of the coast line bounded by forest at the eastern extremity of the Carpass by subtense methods. The uneven nature of the ground renders good chaining very difficult. Two traversers and eight chainmen have been engaged throughout the year on this work, while some traverse has been done by the instructor in charge of the school of Detail Survey at Rizocarpass. The average number of points fixed per square mile is 30, which agrees with the forecast of Captain H. G. Lyons, D.Sc., F.R.S., whilst the average number of points fixed by one traverser per day falls considerably below the expected rate.

Topographical Maps. For topographical purposes each sheet of 64 cadastral plans is divided into four equal parts, A, B, C, D, each of these latter being called a "4-inch plan." Further, although 4-inch plans in which the Famagusta district boundary is situated (in which the lands of Famagusta district only have been surveyed as yet) are incomplete, yet the drawing and the typing of these incomplete 4-inch plans has not been postponed until the survey on both sides of district boundary is completed. The total number of complete and incomplete 4-inch plans is 27 clean drawn, and 31 typed and completed. Three members of the staff have been engaged on this work; one reducing topographical features of cadastral plans, the second tracing the reduced maps on to a 4-inch plan, the third member typing the plans. The topographical work is now up-to-date with that of the cadastral.

Field Work. During the past year the survey of the narrow strip of land called the Carpass has been continued in an easterly direction. An area of 46,811 acres has been surveyed on the scale 1/2500, and eight villages on the scale 1/1250 comprising an area of 549 acres.

The area given for 1/2500 scale does not include unsurveyed forest lands. The number of detail surveyors has been gradually increased, by posting students from the school of Detail Survey to the main detail survey on their attaining a suitable standard of proficiency.

Plane Table Tacheometer Detail Survey. By the end of June, 1914, the co-ordinates of a sufficient number of triangulation points for the commencement of the plane-table survey of Larnaca district, on the scale 1/5000 had been computed. Accordingly, early in July, a surveyor with a knowledge of subtense methods began the survey of that district. Two further surveyors, with no previous knowledge of plane-table work, joined him early in September, and were instructed by him in that work. On the average the density of the triangulation stations is such that the detail surveyors have three points for each plan of one-and-a-half square miles to work from.

Five-inch tachometers are employed for these observations and are fitted with glass stadia diaphragms (1/100).

Clean Drawing and Typing Plans. It was decided to increase the rate of clean-drawing and typing of plans so that this work should be so far ahead of that of the Valuation Office that plans could be published before the valuation field clerks were in need of them, and so discontinue having sunprints of original field traces taken for field clerks. This aim is fast approaching attainment through increase of the number of draughtsmen and typists. On the average, three typists and four draughtsmen are now engaged on cadastral plans of the scales 1/1250, 1/2500, and 1/5000.

Computation of Areas. All areas are computed at headquarters from field traces (or plans), the areas of each trace being computed by two clerks. A third clerk compares the results, takes the mean of those for which the difference is permissible, and computes again those areas for which the difference is not permissible. These final areas are compiled accurately to the nearest 50 square feet for the scales 1/2500 and 1/5000, whilst for villages on the scale 1/1250 final areas are entered accurately, and the areas so obtained are entered into schedules which are forwarded to the Revaluation Office.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The revision of the plan of Nicosia Town, as compiled from the survey on the scale 1/1250 in 1911, was commenced by the Chief Surveyor, accompanied by a valuation officer, on 17th September, 1914. This revision was completed on 17th December, 1914. As early as possible the areas of such plots as were altered by revision were computed and the clean drawing and typing of the new plan was commenced.

The plan of Nicosia Town is divided into 24 "quarters," each quarter being drawn on a separate sheet, except two, which are drawn on one sheet.

All the "quarter-plans" have been drawn, typed, and completed except the Nebet Hané quarter, which awaits the completion of certain buildings in process of erection.

Early in April, 1914, a school for detail survey to provide additional surveyors for the main detail survey was inaugurated at Rizocarpas. Two students joined in April, and four others who joined later have been transferred to the main detail survey, and there are five students still there.

The surveyor and instructor in charge at the commencement was posted to the plane-table detail survey, Larnaca, early in July, 1914, and was succeeded by a surveyor of the detail staff.

Two Government and 14 elected valuers were employed in making valuations in 18 villages. The properties valued by them included 18,760 holdings, 4,096 trees, and 1,467 buildings.

The field record of one town and two villages was completed and the books handed in to the Revaluation Office, whilst the field record was further carried out in 39 plans. The total number of holdings recorded amounts to 17,062, and the area to 24,097 acres.

Departmental examinations in Law and Arithmetic for fifth-class clerkships were held in January, 1915, and the names of the candidates who passed have been noted for promotion on the occurrence of vacancies. In languages, one officer passed the English Honour Standard, two the English Ordinary with distinction, nine the English Ordinary, one the Greek Preliminary, three the Greek Ordinary, and one the Civil Service Examination. The work of the staff throughout the year was satisfactory.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The year was an exceptionally busy one for the Public Works Department, the sum expended on public works, including those charged to Surplus Balance funds, amounted to £62,336, the largest recorded in Cyprus since the Occupation. The principal items of expenditure were:—Roads and bridges, construction, maintenance, and repair, £37,678; Buildings, £9,347; Limassol Customs Improvement, £6,496; Jetties, etc., £1,802; Purchase of Quay and sheds, Famagusta, £1,500; Stock Depôts, £594; Artesian Well boring, £386; Sanitary Works, £236.

The amount spent on the maintenance and improvement of main roads was £15,305, broken metal and slag being spread and consolidated over a length of 63 miles. A sum of £4,845 was spent entirely on laying foundations on the main roads of the island. The improvement of the Larnaca-Limassol road was continued, although there are still several miles of uncovered foundation, which are very rough for motor cars; many new culverts have been built, eliminating the old "Irish bridges," of which few now remain. The Nicosia-Kyrenia and Nicosia-Famagusta roads were also improved, and are now passable for motor cars in all weathers, although they cannot yet be said to be really good for motor traffic, owing to uncovered foundations. The Limassol-Troodos road is at present the worst of the principal main roads of the island, as, owing to the diversion which is being made, as little as possible is being done to the first 12 miles of the present road, since this length will be practically abandoned when the diversion is completed. The same remarks apply to the Limassol-Paphos road, where large diversions are in process of construction which will immensely improve the gradients and go far towards rendering this important road a good motor road. The price of labour again showed an increase over that of the previous year, the average daily pay of an adult being 11.4cp. (about 1s. 8d.) as against 11.18cp. during 1913-14 and 10.73cp. during 1912-13. The average expenditure per mile on repairs and maintenance works out at £14 9s. 4½cp.

On the improvement of village and other roads a sum of £3,045 was expended, in addition to a sum of £2,167 expended by Commissioners on district roads, bridges, and culverts. Included in the latter are no less than 64 bridges, 31 culverts, 59 miles of road built and 209 repaired, which represents a great improvement in communications throughout the island.

The various Government works and buildings throughout the island were maintained, and the harbour, sheds, quays, etc., at Famagusta were kept in order throughout. A new water meter and two new special cages for the bell buoy at the entrance to the outer harbour at Famagusta, also new mooring chains for the channel buoys, were procured and fixed. A quay with some sheds was purchased from the Anglo-Egyptian Land Allotment Company at a cost of £1,500. At Larnaca the southern end of the sheltering arm was slightly scoured, and 50 cubic yards of concrete was added to the apron. At Kyrenia one of the jetties was extended 20 feet into deep water, and improvements were made to the jetty at Boghaz near Tricomo. The Zigi jetty was extended 150 feet complete with decking, tram lines, mooring rings, and four hanging stages, giving a depth of 6 feet of water at the end and so facilitating the export of carobs from this important shipping place. At Limassol an additional jetty 300 feet long, 7 feet wide, and with the last 60 feet widened to 17 feet, was constructed at the extreme north end of the new quay wall.

In order to facilitate the transport of salt from the Salt Lake at Larnaca, a 3-feet gauge tramway, 1,100 yards long, was constructed from the lake to the sea, connecting with a jetty 400 feet long. On the seashore near the jetty a store, 40 feet by 20 feet, roofed with fibro cement slate roofing and with cement floor, was built. A loop siding connecting with the tramway at each end runs through the store, so that salt can now be loaded at the lake and run either direct on to the jetty for shipment, or to the store for storage until required. Four new trolleys were provided and some spare rails for renewals. At the lake itself two platforms, each 65 feet square, were formed and paved with stone in French lime mortar.

The additional motor car purchased by the department proved most useful during the year, and in fact, with the abnormal conditions caused by the war, it would have been almost impossible to have carried out the amount of official travelling that became necessary without the two Government motor cars. The total mileage run was 14,005, at a cost of £360, whilst the receipts amounted to £248, of which £132 was in respect of private hire.

The principal Government offices in Larnaca, which are somewhat scattered, were connected by telephone, with a small exchange operated by the Commissioner's clerks in the Konak, enabling the work in that station to be carried out more expeditiously than was possible when all messages had to be carried by hand. The Government telephone in Nicosia was also extended; 45,867 calls were registered during the year, testifying to the great convenience of the installation, in spite of the fact that it has been found impossible to eliminate altogether the trouble due to cross talking, notwithstanding frequent efforts.

The improvement to the Limassol Customs, begun last year with funds voted from surplus balances, was continued during the year and completed, with the exception of the laying of the tram line along the new quay and the fixing of the turntable and a seven-ton crane on the Tee head of the large pier, which are now in course of completion. The work has been carried out in a most satisfactory manner, and should prove an immense boon to this rapidly-growing port by relieving the congestion which previously existed at the landing stage and improving the amenities of the town.

The erection of the new Law Courts at Nicosia, begun the previous year, was completed, and the courts moved into the new quarters provided. The rooms vacated by them in the old Konak building were altered and renovated to suit the requirements of the Land Registration and Survey Department, which had been carrying out much of its work under great difficulties in hired buildings in various parts of the town. Both the new and the old buildings were wired throughout for electric lighting, the installation of which will not only improve the conveniences of the offices, but will diminish the danger from fire.

The Inspector of Water Supplies was fully occupied throughout the year in inspecting and reporting on proposed schemes for the improvement of village water supplies and in giving technical assistance and advice in carrying them out. Altogether 50 villages were inspected and 23 schemes for improving the water supplies were carried out to completion. £2,471 was expended by the Commissioners in giving help to various villages for the improvement of their water supplies and on the construction of small bridges and culverts on village roads.

Certain extended sanitary works were carried out in connection with recommendations made by Sir Ronald Ross, F.R.S., in his report on Malaria in Cyprus, and the draining of a marsh at Hagios Nikolaos in the Paphos district has resulted in the almost complete disappearance of the mosquito plague from the village.

IRRIGATION WORKS.

On the whole the revenue derived from these works during the past year was fairly satisfactory, as the direct and indirect revenue together amounted to £1,834, while the working expenditure was only £1,686. Owing to the late rains in March of 1915, only 367 acres were watered for cereals, but 1,543 acres were watered for cotton, making a total of 1,910 acres. The actual area of land under cotton was 675 acres, as against 617 during the previous year. On the whole the crops did well, and it may be considered that cotton cultivation is now firmly established and will always take place whenever there is sufficient water available.

At the commencement of the year the Kouklia Reservoir, which is the most important, was full, but as the rainfall during the past winter has been light no big floods entered the reservoirs, so that at the end of March there was only a very small amount of water stored for summer use.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The mean barometrical readings show the usual steady mean reduction of pressure from 29·931 in April, to 29·695 in July. The mean then rose steadily to 30·133 in December, when it again fell gradually, till in March a mean of 29·944 inches was reached.

The absolute mean of the thermometer for the year was 65°·21 as compared with 65°·24 during the previous year. This is a little less than the mean of the last 15 years. The winter was an exceptionally warm one as the thermometer in the screen in Nicosia never fell below the freezing point and no snow was observed on the Kyrenia hills. The lowest temperature at Nicosia was 35° and the highest temperature 103°, showing a range of temperature of 68° F., as compared with 69° F. in the previous year. The lowest terrestrial radiation reading was 29°, i.e., only 3 degrees of frost on the grass, as against 5 degrees the year before. The highest solar radiation (exposed bulb) reading was 119° showing a variation of 90° only as against 105° the previous year.

The average rainfall during the year for the whole island was 21·91 inches, as against 24·66 during the previous year. This shows an improvement, the average for the past 10 years being only 19·79. There can be little doubt that the gradual re-forestation carried on by the Forest Department and otherwise since the Occupation is having a beneficial effect on the rainfall and atmospheric conditions of the island.

The greatest air movement of 769·5 miles in 24 hours recorded at Nicosia Observatory occurred on the 19th February, 1915, as compared with 424 miles on the 10th January, 1914. The average movement per day for the past year was 90·72 miles, which is considerably higher than that for the previous year.

RAILWAY.

The length of line open for traffic during the first seven months of the year was 61 miles, but in November this was increased by 10 miles, as a portion of the extension from Morphou to Evrykhon was completed and opened for working one train each way per day.

The gross earnings for the year amounted to £13,551 and the working expenses to £11,934, giving an excess of £1,617, which represents 13·55 per cent. of receipts over working expenses. The excess would probably have been greater, judging from the receipts for the first four months of the year, but for the fact that on the outbreak of the war railway traffic decreased, and the number of passengers and the freight carried throughout the year showed a slight decrease over the figures for the previous year.

The extension of the line from Morphou to Evrykhon was continued during the early part of the year and carried out mostly by the open lines staff; the purchase of the land required was completed, and staking out was continued from the seventh mile to Evrykhon. Masonry and culverts were carried on by petty contract and completed to the tenth mile. The permanent-way was linked in and taken as far as the thirteenth mile; ballasting was lightly done and will be completed when the earthwork has consolidated to some extent. A

station building and a small goods shed were commenced at Evrykhon, and earth brick shelters were erected at the various sidings. It is premature to forecast the extent to which the opening of this extension will affect the revenue of the railway, but there is every prospect of its proving a remunerative undertaking, and it will certainly benefit the important district which it is designed to develop.

The permanent-way, bridges, and buildings of the open line, have been maintained in good order during the year, and a 20-ft. bridge was constructed close to Famagusta at a point where three wash-outs had previously occurred. Permanent-way gangs were again reduced during the year, and economy effected thereby.

The locomotives, carriages, and wagons were maintained in good order. The engine mileage run was 80,685 on a coal consumption of 666·70 tons; as in previous years heavy boiler repairs were necessary owing to the abnormal hardness of the water.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1914, was 187, as against 191 the previous year. The total sums deposited during the year amounted to £4,001.9.6cp., and the withdrawals to £3,516.19.5cp. leaving a balance of £5,323.17.8cp., the greater part of which is invested in certain stocks.

SPONGE FISHING.

There were five harpoon boats and six machine boats fitted with diving apparatus, working in Cyprus waters for sponges during the year, the fees collected being £1 and 25 per cent. in kind of the total catch in the case of each machine boat, and ten shillings with 20 per cent. in the case of each harpoon boat. The total number of sponges fished was 67,734.

MINING.

The war has affected somewhat the mining industry and has delayed the progress of several promising concerns. The Cyprian Mining Company at the Asbestos Works, Amiandos, was obliged to stop work for a considerable time owing to a fire which broke out in May, 1914, and burnt down a large portion of the factory, but was able to resume work on May 1st, 1915.

Prospecting operations for copper have been carried out on a considerable scale over the area close to Katydata, shafts being sunk and timbered, and tunnels drilled, and a mining lease has been applied for. The proximity of this deposit to the new railway extension should facilitate the export of any ore discovered, as well as rendering the import of machinery possible.

Little or no further work has been done as regards prospecting for oil, as the outbreak of war has interfered with the financial and other operations necessary for the proper utilisation of the prospecting permits so far granted.

Eighteen fresh permits were issued during the year for prospecting for various minerals in different parts of the island, and eight permits were extended for a further period of six months.

TRADE MARKS.

The outbreak of war caused a practical cessation of all applications for the registration of trade marks, and the number received during the year amounted to fourteen only, seven of which were from the United States of America. Of the applications seven were in respect of machinery and parts of machinery, two in respect of chemical substances, and the remainder in respect of various miscellaneous articles of commerce.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Notwithstanding the temporary dislocation of trade caused by the outbreak of the European war, a moderate harvest, a poor carob season, and the almost complete failure of the olive crop, the island has enjoyed a fair measure of prosperity during the year, owing mainly to the high prices obtainable for cereals, vegetables, and foodstuffs generally.

The wheat crop was disappointing, and considerably below last year's; barley was also not up to last year's record; oats and vetches were good. On the whole the harvest was very moderate, though above the average of the past five years. The output of fruit and vegetables continues to increase, a million-and-a-half oranges and a million lemons having been exported from one district alone, whilst the production of potatoes has increased in the Famagusta district from 750 tons in 1912 to 2,000 in the year under review. The demand for the latter in Egypt has been unusually large, owing, no doubt, to the number of troops quartered there during the winter.

On the outbreak of war in August, 1914, martial law was proclaimed in Cyprus and has continued in force ever since. Certain measures were immediately necessary for the detention of enemy shipping, dealing with enemy subjects, the prohibition of the export of foodstuffs, the regulating of the price of necessities of life, and so forth, and the proclamation of martial law gave the necessary authority for carrying such measures into immediate execution. In no way, however, has its existence impeded the normal liberties of the general public and the law courts have continued to carry on their usual functions without interruption.

The financial measures taken on the outbreak of war were, in the first instance, the prohibition of the export of specie and the proclamation of a series of Bank Holidays, followed by a Proclamation establishing a moratorium, suspending for a period the execution of judicial decisions in respect of debts, damages, and costs, and the payment of bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments. This period of delay was subsequently extended, and its terms modified by subsequent Proclamations in order to allow the normal course of business to be gradually resumed. The other financial measure undertaken to meet the abnormal situation created by the outbreak of war on a large scale was the issue of a limited amount of paper currency, facilities being given to the principal banks to purchase local notes by means of sums deposited in London to the credit of the Island Government. A first and temporary issue consisted in notes of the denomination of £5 and £1 rapidly printed in the Government Printing Office; these notes were called in on the arrival of notes printed for the Island in London, the latter being substituted for them, denominations of 10s. and 5s. being added. As a result of these measures business in the island has been comparatively unaffected by the war. Relief works have been unnecessary, trade has continued, the collection of taxes has proceeded normally, and practically no curtailment of Government expenditure has been rendered necessary.

On the 6th August a Proclamation was issued prohibiting the export from the island of cereals, various forms of forage, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, etc., and—without express permission—of horses, mules, and asses. This Proclamation was subsequently modified in various ways, both in accordance with local circumstances and Imperial necessities, and the Proclamation now in force contains Schedules consisting of lists of goods the export of which is in whole or part prohibited to various destinations.

A number of measures became necessary from time to time to prevent the necessities of life, in particular flour and bread, from being sold at prohibitive prices, and power was at first given to Provost Marshals in each of the districts to fix a maximum price for the principal commodities. The importation of flour except at exorbitant prices became practically impossible, but the supply of wheat grown in the island, the export of which was prohibited on the outbreak of war, was approximately adequate to meet the needs of the island. As a tithe of the wheat and barley is taken in kind by Government by way of taxation, it was possible to issue this from Government stores at a reasonable price, and this was sufficient to steady the market price; power was further given by Proclamation to seize surplus stocks unreasonably withheld from the market. By the use of barley and maize flour, either mixed with wheaten flour or baked alone, the supply of bread was made adequate to the demand, and although the price of the loaf rose to slightly above the average, it never reached a prohibitive figure.

The outbreak of war with Turkey, followed immediately by the annexation of the island on 5th November, 1914, created a new situation for Cyprus, but in practice the results were little felt. The

annexation was made known by posting in public places His Majesty's Order in Council and the Proclamation of the High Commissioner, and the announcement was received generally with enthusiasm, not only by the Christian population, but by the large majority of the Moslem inhabitants, who had little sympathy with the policy of the Ottoman Government in this matter. A number of refugees from Syria arrived in Cyprus both before and after the declaration of war, and a sum of money was placed by the Island Government in the hands of the authorities in Asia Minor for the relief of distressed Cypriots in the Turkish Empire, the diplomatic and consular authorities of the United States of America generously undertaking its distribution and the care of destitute Cypriots.

A few small sailing vessels in Cyprus waters belonging to Ottoman subjects were interned, after three days' grace had been given to enemy shipping to leave the island, and a Prize Court has been established in Cyprus, but so far no prizes have come before it.

By the terms of the Proclamation of 5th November, 1914, published simultaneously with the Order in Council announcing the annexation of the island, Ottoman subjects born in Cyprus and resident in Cyprus on the date of annexation became British subjects; whilst Ottoman subjects not born in Cyprus but resident in Cyprus on the date of annexation, were allowed one year within which to leave the island, failing which they would become British subjects. This Proclamation was revoked on 3rd March, 1915, and a new Proclamation issued in its place, which decreed that all Ottoman subjects resident in Cyprus on 5th November, 1914, became British subjects, but that any such Ottoman subject who desired to retain his Ottoman nationality might by notice under his hand addressed to the High Commissioner elect to do so within one month of the coming into force of the Proclamation, in which case he must leave Cyprus within two months after the date of so electing, failing which he would be treated as a British subject. Only a few persons, however, and these chance visitors to Cyprus, elected to retain their Ottoman nationality.

Cyprus has since the outbreak of the war given its assistance in a variety of ways. The services of several officials have been lent to His Majesty's naval and military forces; assistance and special facilities and permits for export have been given in the matter of purchasing supplies of livestock, foodstuffs, and other products for the troops in Egypt, Malta, and elsewhere; whilst generous donations in money and kind have been freely given to the Red Cross and other charitable funds, and offers from various sections of the community have been made to provide hospitals and convalescent homes for the wounded, and accommodation for refugees.

The importance of the production of as large a quantity of wheat and barley as possible has been fully realised by the agricultural community, and in the early spring much new land was placed under the plough and sown, so that this year's harvest should under favourable conditions of weather prove much above the average.

The Co-operative Credit Societies Law came into force on 9th October, 1914, and will provide the necessary machinery for the practice of "thrift, self-help, and co-operation amongst agriculturists," the encouragement of which, in the words of the preamble to the law, is its main purpose. It will doubtless take some time before village communities realise and understand the benefits which are likely to follow from the formation by them of Credit Societies under the law, and so far no application has been received for the registration of a Co-operative Credit Society under the Law, but cheap credit is an essential for the small farmers, who form the majority of the inhabitants of this agricultural island, and there is every hope that in the course of time the new law will serve as a means of rescuing the embarrassed peasant from the grip of the usurer, who at present holds far too prominent a place in the island community.

C. W. ORR,

Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 866.

SWAZILAND.

REPORT FOR 1914-15.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 830.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
BY BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 7622-57.] Price 3d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I. FINANCIAL	4
II. TRADE AND AGRICULTURE	7
III. LEGISLATION	11
IV. EDUCATION AND RELIGION	11
V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	12
VI. JUDICIAL	13
VII. VITAL STATISTICS, ETC.	14
VIII. POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH STATISTICS	16
IX. GENERAL	17

SKETCH MAP.

By Transfer

APR 4 1919

No. 866.

SWAZILAND.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 830.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Cape Town,
14th August, 1915.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of a dispatch from the Acting Resident Commissioner of Swaziland forwarding the Annual Report of the territory for the year ended 31st March, 1915, together with the Blue Book Return.

I have, &c.,
BUXTON,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
A. Bonar Law, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Colonial Office.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Mbabane, Swaziland.
July 17th, 1915.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on Swaziland or the year ended March 31st, 1915.

I have, &c.,
D. HONEY,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency,
The Right Hon. Viscount Buxton, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner for South Africa.

REPORT ON SWAZILAND FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR
ENDED THE 31st MARCH, 1915.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(a) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total revenue for the year amounted to £59,199 0s. 11*d.*, being £2,900 19s. 1*d.* below the estimate, and the total expenditure to £62,170 9s. 0*d.*, showing a saving of £1,524 on the original and supplementary Estimates.

The following table shows the comparison between the ordinary revenue and expenditure for the five years from April 1st, 1910 :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus of Revenue over Expenditure.	Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.
	£	£	£	£
1910-11	46,639	44,836	1,803	—
1911-12	49,410	45,774	3,636	—
1912-13	51,428	49,210	2,218	—
1913-14	50,393	52,277	—	1,884
1914-15	44,664	51,016	—	6,351

The above table does not include the Extraordinary Revenue and Expenditure for the years indicated. During the year under review the former amounted to £14,534, derived from sales and leases of Crown lands and recoveries of the instalments due under the various proclamations, on account of survey and expropriation costs incurred in connection with the settlement of the concession question, and the latter to £11,154, which was expended chiefly in connection with the eradication of East Coast Fever and on extraordinary public works.

The following comparative statements show the actual Revenue and Expenditure for the financial years 1913-14 and 1914-15 :—

Revenue.

Head.	1913-14.	1914-15.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Licences	2,679	2,768	89	—
Native Tax	26,061	25,252	—	809
Dog Tax	2,890	2,954	64	—
Native Pass Stamps	491	606	115	—
Fines, Court Fees, etc.	1,700	915	—	785
Revenue Stamps	837	841	4	—
Transfer Duty	1,304	595	—	709
Import Dues	7,571	5,981	—	1,590
Posts and Telegraphs	1,792	1,405	—	387
Concession Rents	3,523	2,702	—	821
Base Metal royalty	657	120	—	537
Miscellaneous	888	525	—	363
Total Ordinary Revenue	50,393	44,664	272	6,001
Sales of Crown Land, Leases, &c.	10,663	7,411	—	3,252
Recoveries of Survey Costs	1,291	4,829	3,538	—
Recoveries of Expropriation Costs	1,901	2,295	394	—
£	64,248	59,199	4,204	9,253

The shortfalls of normal revenue may in practically each instance be attributed either directly or indirectly to the war. In the case of concession rentals and native tax any amounts due for the year under review will be recovered in future years. The recoveries on account of survey and expropriation costs were claimable for the first time during the year; this accounts for the excess of revenue under those heads.

The decrease in the amount for the sale of Crown lands is accounted for mainly by unavoidable delay in the completion of certain authorised sales.

Expenditure.

Head.	1913-14.	1914-15.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Establishments	11,678	11,399	—	279
Police	13,155	13,229	74	—
Transport	1,163	852	—	311
Posts and Telegraphs ..	2,434	2,386	—	48
Administration of Justice ..	4,167	3,786	—	381
Public works "Recurrent" ..	2,138	1,019	—	1,119
Medical	2,761	3,059	298	—
Education	2,414	2,578	164	—
Veterinary	879	1,207	328	—
Allowances, etc., Native Chiefs	1,306	1,502	196	—
Pensions	921	921	—	—
Interest	3,600	3,403	—	197
Refunds of Revenue ..	30	26	—	4
Miscellaneous	1,547	1,565	18	—
Sinking Fund	2,054	2,054	—	—
Deeds Registry & Surveys	2,030	2,030	—	—
Total Ordinary Expenditure	52,277	51,016	1,078	2,339
Public Works Extraordinary	4,624	4,856	232	—
Concession and Partition Expenses	325	310	—	15
Eradication of East Coast Fever	4,658	4,211	—	447
Mbabane Township Water Supply and Light ..	399	376	—	23
Special Services	—	1,253	1,253	—
Arms and Ammunition ..	—	148	148	—
Land expropriated in connection with Settlement	356	—	—	356
Refund to Swazi Nation ..	1,328	—	—	1,328
	63,967	62,170	2,711	4,508

The decreases under normal expenditure were brought about as a result of the shortfall in revenue necessitating further economies. The increase under the several heads were caused by extended services.

The item "Special Services" was necessary principally for the definition of beacons of native area and purposes generally in connection with the expiry (on the 30th June, 1914) of the five-year period of concurrent occupation of private land by Europeans and natives.

(b) Public Debt.

The Public Debt was reduced during the year from £100,000 to £92,500. The debt is made up as follows:—

Swaziland Consolidated Loan, £72,500, bearing interest at 3½ per cent. per annum and repayable through the medium of a sinking fund within twenty-five years from the 1st April, 1910.

Swazi National Trust Fund, £20,000, bearing interest at 4 per cent. per annum.

(c) Assets and Liabilities.

On March 31st, 1915, liabilities exceeded assets by £95,189 17s. 5d.

(d) Currency and Banking.

The currency is British coin, and coins of the late South African Republic, which are of similar denomination to the British. All such British and Transvaal coins are legal tender in the case of gold coins, for payment of any amount; in the case of silver coins for payment of an amount not exceeding forty shillings; in the case of bronze coins, for payment of an amount not exceeding one shilling. The National Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch at Mbabane, where the amount on deposit at March 31st, 1915, was £23,472. The northern and southern parts of the territory deal with banks in the Transvaal, which are more conveniently situated to those parts. The average bank rate of exchange with London was one half per cent. At the various Post Offices in the Territory Post Office Savings Bank business is conducted. The number of depositors at March 31st was 166 with a total credit of £2,131. The rate of interest allowed in the Post Office Savings Bank was 3 per cent.

(e) Customs.

By an agreement with the Government of the Union of South Africa, dated June 30th, 1910, Swaziland is dealt with, for Customs purposes, as part of the Union. Payments due to Swaziland are assessed on the proportion which the average of the collections for the three years ended March 31st, 1911, bears to the total Customs collection of the Union in each year. The collections for the year under review amount to £5,981, as compared with £7,175, £7,576, £7,571 for the years 1911-12, 1912-13, 1913-14, respectively. The decrease may be attributed entirely to the reduction of Union receipts on account of the war.

During the year the Customs Tariff was revised and the law consolidated and amended on the lines of the Union tariff and law. The following enactments dealing with Customs matters were promulgated during the year: Proclamations Nos. 26, 33, 86, and 87 of 1914.

II.—TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

(a) Trade.

As indicated above, no statistics of imports and exports are now kept. There is little variation in the volume of trade, which is small. In common with other parts of the empire Swaziland has suffered, and

is suffering, from the effects of the war, though to a much smaller degree than most places. This must be attributed to the fact that the majority of the natives of the territory are not wage-earners, and those who do go out to work are engaged principally on mines that have not been affected to any great extent by the war, with the result that the demand for native labour, after the first few weeks of the war, resumed practically normal conditions. The traders have all experienced decreased receipts, which is probably accounted for by the fact that a considerable proportion of the adult white male population has gone to the war, either in Europe or Africa, and to the restricted spendings of people generally; also to the fair harvest reaped by the natives. Competition in trade is keen, though a standard in prices is usually maintained. Owing to high transport charges and the small turnover of the traders cost of living is high. The following were the average prices for foodstuffs obtaining throughout the year: Flour per bag, 100 lb., 32s.; mealies per bag, 200 lb., 23s.; mealie meal, per bag, 180 lb., 25s.; potatoes per bag, 150 lb., 20s.; butter per lb., 2s. 6d.; milk, per quart, 9d.; rice, per lb., 4d.; sugar, per lb., 4d.; bread, 5d. per lb.; meat, 1s. per lb.; cheese, 1s. 4d. per lb.

(b) *Agriculture.*

Taking the Territory as a whole the crops reaped during the year may be considered fair. In some parts exceptionally good crops were reaped, whilst in others the return was meagre. The result did not depend entirely on locality. Owing to the great difference in altitude, rainfall, and other climatic conditions of the various parts of Swaziland it is unusual to get a uniform crop throughout. During the past season however, hail storms of unusual severity destroyed the harvest in many places, both on the hills and in the flats, and excessive rains at the wrong period also adversely affected growing crops in some localities. The crops of the Europeans generally were slightly below the average. The natives as a whole cultivate indifferently barely sufficient for their requirements with the result that in a bad or even normal year recourse has to be had to the trader. There are indications, however, that the natives are observing the progressive methods of the Europeans and are beginning to emulate them in this respect. An annual Agricultural Show is held at Bremersdorp under the auspices of the Swaziland Farmers' Association. By kind permission of the Union Government the services of agricultural experts are available each year for judging the exhibits. The advantages of the Shows and the benefit derived from the advice of the experts is evidenced by an increasing improvement in the quality and quantity of the exhibits. The agricultural experts have also reported favourably on the possibilities of growing cotton, tobacco, and fruits (citrus and mangoes) in many parts of the Territory. Agricultural development is, however, dependent to a very large degree on the accessibility of markets, which only a railway can afford.

Ten further small holdings were allotted to European farmers. In all 20 grants were made of a total of 6,660 morgen at an average price

of 6s. 3d. per morgen. Four of these grants were under fifty morgen ; six were over fifty and under two hundred and fifty morgen, and ten were over 250 morgen. Most of the larger grants were made in connection with the resale to concessionaires of land "selected" under the Partitions Proclamation of 1907. (A morgen equals 2·11654 English acres).

(c) STOCK.

The following are the estimated numbers of stock at March 31st, 1915 :—

Horses	..	..	..	..	..	..	500
Horned Cattle	..	..	..	..	..	..	90,000
Mules	..	..	..	..	..	..	350
Donkeys	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,550
Native Sheep and Goats	..	..	..	..	..	..	200,000
Pigs	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,000

In addition to the above approximately 200,000 sheep are brought into Swaziland from the Transvaal each year for winter grazing. The merino sheep is not kept in the country during the summer months, though it is not unreasonable to think that with the feeding down of the coarser grasses, and paddocking, sheep farming on the hills will in time become one of the local industries.

At the end of the financial year there were 35 Government and six private dipping tanks in regular use in the Territory, an increase of nine as compared with the previous year, at which approximately 64,000 head of cattle were being dipped regularly. A charge of 2s. per head of cattle per annum is paid by European owners on all cattle dipped in Government dips. The dipping of the cattle of natives is paid for from the Swazi National Fund. Further dips will be erected in suitable localities as funds become available.

Eleven areas in Swaziland were affected with East Coast Fever cattle diseases at March 31st, 1915, six of which were infected prior to March 31st, 1914. 659 animals died from the disease during the year as compared with 1,499 during the previous year. It is extremely difficult to trace the origin of new outbreaks of the disease, and in most cases it can only be attributed to infected ticks having become attached to the clothing of persons and by that means carried into clean areas. Immediately an outbreak of the disease is notified, the Government takes control and uses such means as may be necessary for arresting the outbreak. Compensation is paid by the Government to owners for all cattle that die of the disease or that may be destroyed after the Government has taken control. For this purpose an insurance tax of 1s. per head of cattle per annum is paid on all cattle owned

by Europeans. The contribution by the natives in this respect is considered to be included in their annual payment to the Swazi National Fund, from which all compensation is paid in this connection. The benefits derived from dipping have become manifest and are appreciated by Europeans and natives alike.

Oxen have been used for transport purposes on the road from Mbabane to the Portuguese border, a distance of about 85 miles, during the whole year. This road had been closed for ox transport for the previous ten years owing to the prevalence of East Coast Fever. Transport cattle have a particular brand, and a careful description of them is kept in order to prevent illicit movement; they are dipped every five days. No outbreak of disease occurred amongst these animals. After an absence of about seven years ephemeral fever, or "three days' sickness," in cattle made its appearance and went through the country. This disease is considered to be of climatic origin and fortunately is not attended with serious results.

There were a few cases of quarter-evil, ordinary redwater, gall-sickness, and heartwater.

The excessive rains were the cause of horse sickness assuming a more virulent form than usual and many deaths were reported.

All the stud animals imported by the Government have done well, and many calves sired by the bulls are to be seen. They are easily distinguished from the native cattle. The ranching companies and private individuals have also imported pedigree and pure bred stock, in most cases with very favourable results.

(d) MINING.

Mining in Swaziland is carried on under the authority of concessions granted by the late King Umbandine and the Crown Minerals Order in Council. Gold and tin are the only minerals worked commercially at the present time. The Crown owns a few mineral areas, on which, however, no development has yet taken place.

The outputs for the past five years are as follows :—

		Cassiterite Tin.		Valued at
		<i>Tons.</i>		£
1910-11	..	476	..	42,250
1911-12	..	313	..	32,397
1912-13	..	385	..	37,946
1913-14	..	492	..	51,220
1914-15	..	496	..	43,256

		Fine Gold.		Valued at
		Ozs.		£
1910-11	..	13,543	..	57,530
1911-12	..	14,781	..	62,783
1912-13	..	13,011	..	55,266
1913-14	..	11,324	..	48,104
1914-15	..	9,310	..	39,552

The decreases in the output of gold may be attributed to the temporary closing down of two or three small properties.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The principal legislation promulgated during the year is embodied in the following Orders in Council and Proclamations:—

Order in Council of November 28th, 1914, extending to Swaziland certain sections of the Companies (consolidated) Act, 1908.

The Swaziland Crown Lands and Native Areas Exchange and Expropriation Order in Council, 1915.

Proclamation No 11 of 1914, providing for the imposition and recovery of a charge for dipping cattle belonging to persons other than natives.

Proclamation No. 26 of 1914, Swaziland Customs Proposed Duties Procedure Proclamation, 1914.

Proclamation No. 33 of 1914, Swaziland Spirits and Beer Proposed Duties Procedure Proclamation, 1914.

Proclamation No. 86 of 1914, Swaziland Customs Management Proclamation, 1914.

Proclamation No. 2 of 1915, making provision for controlling the purchase by natives of land in Swaziland.

Proclamation No. 7 of 1915, Public Service (Swaziland) Proclamation, 1915.

IV.—EDUCATION AND RELIGION.

(a) *Education.*

Government schools are established at Bremersdorp, Driefontein, Ferreira's, Mantambi, Hluti, and Zombode, the latter being for natives, at which the young Paramount Chief, aged 17, attends. A private

primary and secondary school for Europeans has been established at Mbabane by the Rev. C. C. Watts, M.A., priest of the Anglican Church. This school receives a Government grant and charges no tuition fees. Mr. Watts has also established a school for coloured children close to Mbabane. This also receives a Government grant. The average attendance of European children at the various schools was 124. At the Zombode school for natives the average attendance was 47, while that of the school for coloured children was 36. In addition to the above, the various Missions conduct schools and classes in connection with their mission work for natives. These receive Government grants. Boarding bursaries at the rate of 4s. per child per week are paid by Government for all European pupils whose parents are in poor circumstances and who reside three miles or more from school. The total sum spent on education during the year was £2,578.

(b) Religion.

Nine religious bodies are carrying on missionary work in various parts of the country. At a meeting of the heads of the Missions held some time ago, it was decided to prevent as far as possible the overlapping of the work of the Missions, and this policy is being adhered to. The following are the different Churches and Missions operating in Swaziland:—Anglican, Roman Catholic, Wesleyan Methodist, Independent Wesleyan, South Africa General Mission, Scandinavian Alliance Mission, African Methodist Episcopal Mission, Pentecostal Mission and International Holiness Union. Religious instruction is given by the various bodies at 68 different centres, where the average attendances during the year totalled 3,930.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The Hospital at Mbabane, the only Government Institution, contains one European and two native wards. 114 patients were admitted during the year, while 1,277 out-patients were attended. Six deaths occurred in hospital during the year. The uneducated native does not, as a rule, make voluntary use of the services of the Government Medical Officers, and even when treatment is made by the doctors, the patient generally consults and follows the advice of a native medicine man. In the malarial districts, however, natives are beginning to appreciate the prophylactic qualities of quinine, which is distributed free by the Government.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

(a) POLICE.

The authorised strength of the Swaziland Police was :—

Europeans.

1 Assistant Commissioner (Major),
 1 Inspector (Captain),
 1 Sub-Inspector,
 1 Acting Sub-Inspector,
 4 Sergeants,
 4 Corporals,
 13 Troopers.

Natives.

1 Sergeant-Major,
 6 Sergeants,
 13 Corporals,
 135 Constables.

All the Europeans are mounted, while the native force is infantry. The Force sent out 5,101 patrols, and patrolled 277,592 miles during the year.

(b) *Criminal Statistics.*

During the year 1,385 cases were reported to the Police. Of this number 29 were trivial matters in which the Police refused to take proceedings, 17 were not brought before the Courts for want of evidence, and the balance of 1,339 cases were dealt with in the various Courts. In all, 1,917 persons were dealt with by the Courts; of this number 131 were discharged on the merits of the case, 1,761 were summarily convicted, while 25 were committed for trial before the Superior Court.

The following table shows the number of convictions and acquittals during the last four years :—

Summary Convictions.

	1911-12	1912-13	1913-14	1914-15
Offences against the person ..	221	190	352	149
Offences against property ..	225	154	183	120
Offences against Revenue Tax and Pass Laws	979	1,633	1,681	1,068
Other offences.. ..	364	518	628	424

Convictions in the Superior Courts.

	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.
Homicides	12	12	59	18
Other offences against the person	5	8	10	5
Offences against property ..	—	—	1	1
Other offences.. .. .	—	1	—	—

Number of persons Acquitted.

In Inferior Courts	222	153	188	131
In the Superior Courts ..	24	19	13	20

(c) Gaols.

During the year 1,091 persons, viz :—887 men, 32 women, and 3 juveniles were admitted to the various gaols in the Territory. Of this number 428 were committed for safe custody till trial or for want of security, and 663 for purposes of penal imprisonment. Of the number of those committed for imprisonment, 33 had been once previously convicted, 15 twice previously convicted, and 10 thrice or more times. The daily average of persons in prison was 164. The number of admissions to hospital during the year was 78, while the daily average on the sick list was 2.28. There were 4 deaths in the various gaols during the year.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS, ETC.

(a) POPULATION.

A census of the population of Swaziland was taken in May, 1911. The following table shows the result :—

EUROPEANS.					COLOURED.				
Males.		Females.		Total	Males.		Females.		Total.
Under 21	21 and over.	Under 21	21 and over.		Under 21	21 and over.	Under 21	21 and over.	
240	383	250	210	1,083	54	30	44	15	143

NATIVES.

Males.		Females.		Under 15.		Total	Total Population
Married	Single	Married	Single	Males	Females		
12,148	10,377	26,258	6,780	21,573	21,597	98,733	99,959

(b) BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.

Europeans :—

Births 44, or approximately 36 per 1,000.

Deaths 12, or approximately 10 per 1,000.

Marriages 6.

Births and deaths of natives are not registered. There were 42 marriages according to Christian rites amongst the native population.

(c) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the community was good until about February, when an outbreak of malaria occurred in the more low-lying parts of the country. This disease was more prevalent during the past season than during many previous years. This is attributed to the excessive rains and heat. The disease occurred in localities that were thought free from its ravages, and this no doubt largely accounted for the increase in the number of cases, as people living in these places did not take the customary preventive precautions. In very few cases were the attacks serious amongst the European population, but the mortality amongst native children living in the flats, where the disease is always prevalent during the summer months, was greater than usual. Free issues of quinine are made by the Government to natives living in the malarial areas, and it is satisfactory to record that greater advantage is being taken of this, as the beneficial results of the use of this medicine are becoming known amongst the native population. It will be some time, however, before European remedies are generally preferred to the prescriptions of the native doctors. With the exception of an outbreak of whooping cough, no other complaints of a serious nature were recorded. No cases of small-pox were notified. Free vaccination amongst the natives was continued where possible. Several known cases of leprosy exist amongst native families; these patients are isolated.

(d) Meteorology.

The average rainfall throughout the Territory was 53.22 inches, considerably above the normal. The maximum recorded at an observation station was 66.26 inches, which fell on 134 days; the minimum record being 38.64 inches, which fell on 71 days. The

heaviest monthly fall recorded was 25·33 inches during February. Both the rainfall and temperature vary considerably with the altitude of the station. At Mbabane, which lies at an altitude of approximately 4,000 feet, the highest screen temperature recorded was 92 degrees, while the lowest was 32 degrees. At Croydon, an observation station in the low veld, 103 degrees was the highest and 33·2 degrees the lowest screen temperature recorded. In some years the maximum temperature at both the stations mentioned is several degrees higher than that recorded during the past year. At Croydon last year the maximum was 108·3 degrees. The figures given in regard to Mbabane may be taken as typical of the hilly parts of the country, while those of Croydon reflect the low veld generally, with a probable variation of three or four degrees for the maximum in both cases. The temperature and rainfall of the intervening country vary with its altitude.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH STATISTICS.

These services are under the control of the Postmaster-General of the Union, but are paid for from the revenues of Swaziland. The revenue for the year amounted to £1,405, and the expenditure to £2,386. There were twelve Post Offices working, of which four transacted money order and telegraph business, while eight did not.

The Postmaster-General has furnished the following figures:—

Estimated total number of letters, etc., dealt with during the year:—

Letters	230,204
Post Cards	7,852
Newspapers	23,400
Book Packets, Samples, and Circulars ..	27,456
Parcels	3,952
Telegrams (forwarded only)	11,158

Money Orders were issued to the value of £6,941 and paid out to the value of £2,999. At March 31st, there were 166 depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank with a total credit of £2,130. During the year the sum of £2,051 was deposited in this Savings Bank and £1,107 withdrawn. The rate of interest allowed was 3 per cent.

A passenger mule coach service runs twice weekly between Breyten Station and Mbabane, a distance of over 80 miles. Motor car services for passengers between these places have also been established. Elsewhere the postal service is by small carts or runners.

IX.—GENERAL.

The principal items of interest amongst the native population were :

(1) The removal of natives living on privately owned land to land set apart for their sole and exclusive use. It is satisfactory to record that this has been carried out without friction of any kind. In no instance was it necessary forcibly to eject any natives who had been given notice to move. Numerous agreements have been entered into and approved by the Resident Commissioner, whereby natives who wished to do so remain on land owned by Europeans in return for a nominal rental or a short period of service. Both Europeans and natives alike have accepted the altered conditions consequent on the settlement of the long outstanding concessions question in a reasonable spirit. (2) The Chief Malunge died from heart failure on January 6th. He was a brother to the late Paramount Chief Bhunu, a son of Mbandeni and the official adviser of his mother, the Chief Regent. He took a very keen interest in all matters affecting the welfare of his people and his death is a great loss to them, and to the country generally. (3) The collections by the Chiefs for the purchase of further land for national purposes which was referred to in the Report for last year, has been continued, though the death of the Chief Malunge affected the collections considerably. The necessity for Government control of land purchases by natives has been recognised by the issue of a proclamation by the High Commissioner (No. 2 of 1915).

12,120 travelling passes were issued to natives to proceed beyond the borders of the Territory. 7,578 of this number were taken out by natives seeking or proceeding to work, principally on the gold mines in Johannesburg. Of the latter number, 4,651 had been recruited by Labour Agents working under licences issued by the Administration.

The news of the outbreak of war and the rebellion in the Union was received in a most loyal manner by both Europeans and natives. The Chiefs expressed themselves as desirous to assist by arms if called upon. Speaking generally, no great interest is now being evinced on the part of the natives in the conduct of the war, as they are not personally affected in any way.

A public subscription was organised for the equipment of a mounted troop for service in Europe or elsewhere, and it was decided to equip a troop for service under the Union Government. The troop made up of local residents was subsequently formed and attached to the Imperial Light Horse. In addition to this troop the committee of the fund assisted, by means of passage money and rail fares, suitable persons in Swaziland who wished to join the forces in Europe or South Africa. In all some 60 men out of a total of about 380 adult males have gone on active service. Amongst these were all available officials who could be spared. In addition to the fund referred to above, the public generally are contributing monthly sums to the various funds organised in Europe and South Africa for relief of distress occasioned by the war.

On the outbreak of rebellion in the Union the Europeans, through the agencies of the various rifle clubs, formed themselves into organised bodies, and placed their services at the disposal of the Administration ; practically every remaining able-bodied man was enrolled in one or other of these clubs.

All the roads in the Territory, particularly in the hilly parts, were badly damaged during the past summer by the heavy rains. It is extremely difficult and expensive to keep parts of the roads even in fair repair during the rainy season. Some stretches of the main roads have a grade of one in six, and for many miles the roads run in mountainous country where the average annual rainfall for the past ten years is about 50 inches. Special grants have been made for constructing new roads and, where possible, lessening the gradients. As funds become available, it is hoped to utilise further amounts on this very necessary service. In addition to the hired labour used on roads, practically the whole of the hard labour convicts are employed on this work. The total amount expended on roads during the past financial year was £2,298, exclusive of the cost connected with the convict labour employed in this connection.

The Resident Commissioner, Mr. R. T. Coryndon, C.M.G., left Swaziland in May, 1914, having been seconded for special service in Southern Rhodesia, as chairman of a Commission to report on the setting aside of native reserves in that Territory, upon which mission he is still engaged.

Beyond the points mentioned there has been little of political or public interest. Up to the present the serious effects of the war have not been keenly felt. This is probably due to the fact that the European community is a farming one, which is not so adversely affected by war conditions as an urban population, and to the fact that the natives who go out to work are engaged principally on the mines in Johannesburg where, after the first few weeks of the war, the demand for native labour remained unabated.

T. A. STEWARD,

For Government Secretary.

Mbabane, Swaziland,

25th June, 1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

A N N U A L.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
831	Uganda	1913-1914
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Wei-hai-wei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	1914-1915
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1914
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915

M I S C E L L A N E O U S.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
BY BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

1915.

No. 867.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1914-15.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 837.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LIMITED, THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 7622-58.] Price 2d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I. FINANCIAL	4
II. TRADE AND SHIPPING	6
III. LEGISLATION	11
IV. EDUCATION	11
V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	11
VI. POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS	12
VII. POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.. .. .	14
VIII. MILITARY	15
IX. NATIVE AFFAIRS	16
X. TELEGRAPHS	16

SKETCH MAP.

By Transfer
A. 1879

No. 867.

SOMALILAND.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 837.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Commissioner's Camp, Sheikh,

8th September, 1915.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Somaliland Protectorate for the year ended on the 31st March, 1915.

I have, &c.,

G. F. ARCHER.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

REPORT ON THE SOMALILAND BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1914-1915.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected during the year under review amounted to £23,831, which is £6,476 less than the estimated amount, and a decrease of £5,537 on the actual revenue for the previous year.

The revenue figures for the past five years are as follows :—

1910-1911.	1911-1912.	1912-1913.	1913-1914.	1914-1915.
£	£	£	£	£
30,862	32,572	29,913	29,368	23,831

The main source of revenue is Customs, and during 1914-1915 the collections under this head alone amounted to £19,108.

Compared with the returns for 1913-1914, the chief decreases in revenue are as under :—

- (1) Customs, which shows a decrease of £3,957, due to the outbreak of war, as indigenous produce could not be sold at profitable rates, and the export of gums, skins, hides, fibre, and ghee were therefore less than normal.

(2) Licences and internal revenue, where there is a decrease of £478, which is also due to a large extent to the outbreak of war as the Zariba dues were less than normal. The decrease is also to some extent due to fewer criminal cases tried before the Courts.

(3) Post Office. The decrease under this head of £846 is due to the sale of stamps to dealers and collectors being considerably less than usual.

The increases in revenue are under the heads "Port and Harbour Dues," £44, due to a larger number of steamers calling than in the previous year, and "Telegraphs," £49, due to an increase in the number of Admiralty messages dealt with by the Protectorate wireless stations.

The total expenditure for the year was £113,283, which is £44,637 more than the sum expended in 1913-1914. This increase in expenditure is almost entirely due to the increase in strength of the military forces of the Protectorate necessitated by the activity of the Mullah. The other increases are comparatively small, as will be seen from the "Comparative Yearly Statement of Revenue and Expenditure." There were decreases under some heads, and explanations of these decreases will be found in the comparative statement.

The following table shows the total expenditure incurred during the last five years :—

1910-1911. 1911-1912. 1912-1913. 1913-1914. 1914-1915.

£	£	£	£	£
99,223	74,845	60,872	68,646	113,283

The total assets on 1st April, 1915, were £31,043, as against £28,862 on 1st April, 1914. The liabilities amounted to £15,188, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of £15,855. Against this excess a sum of £9,285 will be required to meet services deferred from 1914-1915, leaving a balance of £6,570 to be carried forward to 1915-1916.

Currency.

The currency of the Somaliland Protectorate is based on the Indian rupee. A few Government of India notes are in circulation, and the British sovereign is also accepted at the coast at the rate of Rs. 15 to the sovereign.

There are no banks doing business in the Protectorate, but a private firm—Messrs. Cowasjee, Dinshaw and Brothers—accepts deposits from private individuals, and cashes cheques drawn against them.

Municipal.

Berbera is the only township possessing a municipal fund. The revenue is obtained from nuisance fines, and sweeping and hut tax, which is paid by everyone who has a house or hut in the town.

Revenue during 1914-1915 amounted to Rs.7,329, showing an decrease of Rs.97 on last year.

A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the past five years is shown below :—

	1910-1911.	1911-1912.	1912-1913.	1913-1914	1914-1915.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue ..	5,150	5,058	7,378	7,426	7,329
Expenditure	6,983	6,784	6,751	7,018	6,650

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

The value of the Protectorate trade for the year 1914-1915 amounted to Rs.5,686,645. A statement of the figures for the past five years is appended for comparison :—

Year.		Imports.	Exports.	Total.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1910-1911	.. ..	3,686,925	3,466,504	7,153,429
1911-1912	.. ..	3,844,953	3,420,537	7,265,490
1912-1913	.. ..	3,650,459	3,201,046	6,851,505
1913-1914	.. ..	3,573,287	3,248,945	6,822,232
1914-1915	.. ..	3,043,250	2,643,395	5,686,645

(Excluding specie).

Imports.

Imports (excluding specie, Rs.200,523) amounted to Rs.3,043,250, distributed among the Protectorate ports as follows :—Berbera Rs.1,591,987 ; Bulhar, Rs.652,254 ; and Zeyla, Rs.799,009.

The principal decreases occurred in the imports of American grey sheetings, Rs.262,330; cotton piece goods, Rs.108,852; dates, Rs.34,878; flour, Rs.12,495; rice, Rs.177,479; enamelled ware, Rs.3,707; sugar, Rs.88,286; tea, Rs.4,239; tobacco, Rs.6,135; while the more noticeable increases appear under the following classifications:—Camels, Rs.18,350; ammunition and rifles, Rs.23,744; drugs and medicines, Rs.2,975; grain (jowari), Rs.36,995; other kinds of cereals, Rs.75,316; saddlery, Rs.18,407; iron and steel ware, Rs.17,226; oil, petroleum, Rs.9,213; preserved provisions, Rs.6,847; woollen piece goods, Rs.6,412. The falling off in the imports must be attributed to the decline in trade generally due to the European war.

Exports.

Exports for the year under review amounted to Rs.2,823,778, made up as follows:—

	Rupees.
Somaliland produce.. .. .	2,552,960
British, Foreign, and other Colonial produce	90,435
Specie.. .. .	180,383
Total ..	Rs.2,823,778

Of this total Berbera exported to the value of Rs.738,770; Bulhar Rs.779,456; and Zeyla Rs.1,125,169, the balance representing specie.

The following articles constitute the principal decreases:—Sheep and goats, Rs.32,605; butter, Rs.181,550; coffee, Rs.31,277; fibre, Rs.22,166; gums, Rs.55,486; hides, Rs.46,668; pearls, Rs.12,990; skins, Rs.227,579; tallow, Rs.6,941; miscellaneous, Rs.18,714.

Exceptionally heavy rain produced an extensive and rich pasture and resulted in a favourable breeding season. Consequently the Somalis were able to substitute milk, the staple food of the people, for other necessaries. Fewer sheep, also, were slaughtered owing to this cause, and to the temporary interruption of the skin trade on the outbreak of war. Ghee, or clarified butter, was abundant, but the local demand, especially for the Indian and Somali troops, restricted the foreign supply. Such articles as coffee, gums, and fibre were withheld from shipment owing to the general stagnation in trade.

Shipping.

The shipping returns for the Somaliland Protectorate show a decrease of 112 vessels and an increase of 44,655 tonnage.

		1913-1914.	1914-1915.
		Numbers.	Tons.
Entered	1,670	66,149	1,603 88,092
Cleared	1,646	65,635	1,601 88,347

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels (native-owned dhows) entered and cleared during the year 1914-1915 were as follows :—

	Steamers.		Sailing vessels.		Total.	
	Num- bers.	Tons.	Num- bers.	Tons.	Num- bers.	Tons.
<i>Berbera.</i>						
Entered	116	41,918	410	8,326	526	50,244
Cleared	116	41,918	406	8,562	522	50,480
Total ..	232	83,836	816	16,888	1,048	100,724
<i>Bulhar.</i>						
Entered	94	17,669	408	4,692	502	22,361
Cleared	94	17,669	410	4,711	504	22,380
Total ..	188	35,338	818	9,403	1,006	44,741
<i>Zeyla.</i>						
Entered	53	10,357	522	5,130	575	15,487
Cleared	53	10,357	522	5,130	575	15,487
Total ..	106	20,714	1,044	10,260	1,150	30,974
Grand Total ..	526	139,888	2,678	36,551	3,204	176,439

The entry of an additional number of rice steamers, mainly laden with the military contractor's consignments, combined with fewer but heavier burdened country craft, increased the collective tonnage from 131,784 in 1913-1914 to 176,439 in 1914-1915.

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared during 1914-1915 in the British Somaliland Protectorate is thus made up :—

		Entered:		Cleared:	
		Numbers.	Tons.	Numbers.	Tons.
British .. ..	..	1,353	80,129	1,357	80,405
Italian .. ..	..	13	228	13	228
French .. ..	..	1	114	1	114
Turkish .. ..	..	48	645	46	714
Arabian .. ..	..	182	3,978	178	3,888
Persian .. ..	..	5	693	5	693
Austrian .. ..	..	1	2,305	1	2,305
Total ..	..	1,603	88,092	1,601	88,347

The following is a statement of the various fees collected at the Protectorate ports during the year under review :—

<i>Harbour dues.</i>							Rupees.
Port dues or tonnage dues .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,955
Licences and monthly fees for passenger boats .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	169
Licences and monthly fees for cargo boats at Berbera and Bulhar .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	497
Total ..							2,621
Total for 1913-1914 ..							1,960
Net increase ..							Rs.661

Registration fees, etc.

Berbera and Bulhar.	{	Registration fees ..	..	..	65
		Miscellaneous fees ..	..	..	33
Zeyla.	{	Registration fees ..	..	..	42
		Miscellaneous fees ..	..	..	20
Total ..					<hr/> Rs.160

Bills of Health (under the Merchant Shipping Regulations).

Berbera	Rs.844
-----------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	--------

Water supplied to shipping at Berbera.

Berbera water supply	Rs.215
------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	--------

Fees for stamping and registration of firearms.

Berbera .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Bulhar .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Zeyla .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Total ..							Rs.49

Date-market fees.

Berbera	Rs.597
-----------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	--------

Value of the inland trade registered at Berbera and Bulhar for the year 1914-1915 was : —

							Rupees.
Berbera .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	936,481
Bulhar .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	867,793
Total ..							Rs.1,804,274

Statement of Customs collections in the British Somaliland Protectorate during the year 1914-1915 compared with the year 1913-1914 :—

Ports.	Import duty.	Export duty.	Zariba dues.	Mis- cellan- eous.	Total.	Re- fund.	Balance
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1913-1914.							
Berbera ..	89,920	60,866	13,346	4,311*	168,443	187	168,256
Bulhar ..	65,899	63,742	16,907	583†	147,131	4	147,127
Zeyla ..	39,378	26,373	—	570‡	66,321	—	66,321
Total ..	195,197	150,891	30,253	5,464	381,895	191	381,704
1914-1915.							
Berbera ..	94,856	47,970	10,219	4,934§	157,979	20	157,959
Bulhar ..	45,521	51,602	14,381	525||	112,029	8	112,021
Zeyla ..	25,605	21,096	—	551¶	47,252	—	47,252
Total ..	165,982	120,668	24,600	6,010	317,260	28	317,232
Increase ..	—	—	—	546	—	—	—
Decrease ..	29,215	30,313	5,653	—	64,635	163	64,472

* Port dues, Rs.1,809 ; registration of vessels' fees, Rs.108 ; and other receipts, Rs.2,393.

† Port dues, Rs.151 ; and other receipts, Rs.432.

‡ Registration of vessels' fees, Rs.52 ; and other receipts, Rs.518.

§ Port dues, Rs.2,509 ; registration of vessels' fees, Rs.98 ; and other receipts, Rs.2,327.

|| Port dues, Rs.112 ; and other receipts, Rs.413.

¶ Registration of vessels' fees, Rs.62 ; and other receipts, Rs.489.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were enacted during the year 1914-1915 :—

Alcoholic Liquors Ordinance.

Articles of Commerce (Returns, etc.) Ordinance.

Somaliland Native Forces Ordinance.

Somaliland Indian Contingent Amendment Ordinance.

IV.—EDUCATION.

There are three Government schools in the Protectorate, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

The pupils are children of the local Indian and Arab traders, and a few Somalis. Only Arabic is taught.

The average attendance at the various schools is as follows :—

Berbera, 88.

Bulhar, 30.

Zeyla, 68.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(a) *Hospitals*.—A general hospital is situated at each of the three principal coast towns, namely, at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

At Berbera there is accommodation for forty-four beds, at Bulhar and Zeyla for four beds.

Camp hospitals, constructed of mat huts erected on wooden framework, have been in use at each of the towns for meeting an epidemic of small-pox. These huts have been added to as requirements have demanded. They answer their purpose very well, and withstand the wind far better than the tents used formerly.

The number of admissions to the hospitals was 418.

The number of deaths in hospital was 42.

Small-pox was reported from the Hargeisa district during the year, having spread from Abyssinia, where it is endemic, but it did not reach the coast towns. Vaccine lymph has been entrusted to capable persons at such places as can be reached in the Protectorate area. Owing to the entirely nomadic conditions prevailing in the interior it has been impossible to obtain any reliable details as to the results obtained, nor has any officer remained for sufficient time at any centre of population to collect any correct data.

(b) *Dispensaries*.—There is a dispensary attached to each of the hospitals. The attendance during the year totalled 60,788.

(c) *Laboratories*.—A small room is available at the hospital at Berbera for the purpose of blood examinations, urine testing, &c. No culture equipment exists, but microscope sections can be cut and mounted, and simple chemical analysis conducted.

VI.—POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The following table shows the strength and distribution of the mounted and foot police on 31st March, 1915 :—

Station.		Native Officer.	Non-commissioned officers and men.
Berbera and Bulhar.			
Foot police	2	112	
Mounted police	—	25	
Zeyla.			
Foot police	1	46	
Mounted police	1	10	

There were 539 summary convictions in the subordinate courts (Berbera and Bulhar) and two acquittals in the higher court during 1914-1915.

A comparative statement of cases reported to the Berbera and Bulhar courts during the year is appended :—

Year.	Cases. reported.	Convictions and committals.
1910-1911	732	699
1911-1912	411	848
1912-1913	578	927
1913-1914	579	678
1914-1915	590	541

Of the 590 cases, 376 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include breaches of local rules and other minor offences, leaving 214 cases under the heading "Crime."

A comparative statement of serious crime is appended :—

Crime.	Convictions 1913-1914.	Convictions 1914-1915
Murder	1	0
Robbery and thefts ..	166	167
Grievous hurt	36	27
Breaches of Fire-arms Regulations	5	8
Criminal breach of trust ..	1	4
Highway robbery	4	3
Cheating	2	5

The convictions in the Protectorate court and district courts for the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	Protectorate Court.	District Courts.
1910-1911	2	697
1911-1912	2	846
1912-1913	—	927
1913-1914	1	676
1914-1915	1	539

The Protectorate court returns show cases tried before His Majesty's Commissioner, and the district courts figures represent cases tried in the district and subordinate courts of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla.

The following table shows the number of escapes from gaol in Berbera and Bulhar during the past three years :—

Year.	Escapes.	Recaptures.
1912-1913	8	4
1913-1914	6	2
1914-1915	3	3

The average of convicted prisoners in Berbera and Bulhar gaols was 91, as against 95 in 1913-1914.

Three deaths took place amongst the prisoners during the year.

Criminal statistics for the Zeyla district show an increase on the preceding year, when 58 cases were tried. For the year under review 62 cases came before the court, mostly for trivial offences.

VII.—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

No reliable information is forthcoming as to the Somali population of the country at the present time, but 300,000 is given as an approximation.

In Berbera it is estimated that the population varies from 10,000 in the hot weather, namely, May to September, to 25,000 to 30,000 in the trading season. Bulhar also has a floating population, which is rather smaller, while Zeyla varies from 5,000 in the hot weather to 7,000 in the remaining months of the year.

The only census of the alien community, excluding Europeans, in the coast towns of Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeyla was taken in 1911, the return then being as follows:—Indian, 741, Arabs, 1,857, and mixed population, 789.

Sanitation.

The water supply of Berbera is brought through a 6-inch pipe from springs at Dubar, eight miles distant.

The quarantine station at Berbera is equipped with a "Clayton Disinfector."

Climate.

The climate is chiefly remarkable for its very dry character. In the interior it is healthy, generally speaking, throughout the year, but the same can scarcely be said of the coast belt. Here, during the "Kharif," i.e., the months of June, July, August, and, not infrequently, half of September, the atmospheric conditions are very trying for Europeans, and the effect on the nervous system is most pronounced. Terrific gales of sand-laden wind are then prevalent and the heat is intense, with the thermometer registering 105–115°F. in the shade at

mid-day, and seldom falling below 100° at night. Most of the sickness, however, occurs during the months immediately preceding and immediately following the "Kharif."

During the months of November, December, January, and February the climatic conditions on the coast greatly improve.

VIII.—MILITARY.

The military forces of the Protectorate were considerably increased during the year under review, in order to protect the friendly tribes from dervish raids, to keep open the caravan roads, and to preserve order in the interior.

The mounted Corps received their preliminary training in Sheikh and Galoli, and early in November Burao was occupied as military head-quarters, while simultaneously a military post was established at Las Dureh, situated some 75 miles east south-east of Berbera, where there is an old Government fort.

At the time this forward move was made the dervishes were in occupation of the Ain valley, which forms one of the principal grazing grounds of the friendly tribes, their line then running approximately from Hais on the sea coast (long. 46° 53' E.), through Shimber Berris at the head of the Ain valley, to Bohotleh on the southern confines of the Protectorate. Strong forts had been constructed at Jidali and Shimber Berris, which were used by the Mullah as forward bases for raiding the friendly tribes; of these the latter was considered the most menacing. Accordingly, a force consisting of fourteen officers and 520 rank and file under the Officer Commanding Troops, moved from Burao in the middle of November to attack Shimber Berris. The first attack on the 19th November failed, but a second attack, assisted by a gun brought from Burao, was successful on 23rd November, and all the forts on the top of the Burdab were captured. Without explosives it was found impossible to demolish these very strong forts and the dervishes, who originally evacuated all forts both on top and at the foot of the range, returned during December and reoccupied them. Shimber Berris was again attacked at the beginning of February, 1915, by a column, partly mounted and partly dismounted, and accompanied by a detachment of 23rd Sikh Pioneers from Aden. On this occasion the attack was completely successful. After some severe cave-fighting the enemy was defeated with heavy loss, and evacuated the Ain valley, posts in which have since then been securely held by illaloes (scouts). The losses in these two actions amounted to one officer killed and five wounded, four rank and file killed and twenty-four wounded. Tribal posts, four killed and eleven wounded.

During the year the mounted column has undertaken extensive patrols on different occasions. The Mullah has made no attempt at a counter offensive, and the illaloes in the Ain valley have been very successful in driving off small dervish raiding parties and in recovering stock that has been captured.

IX.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

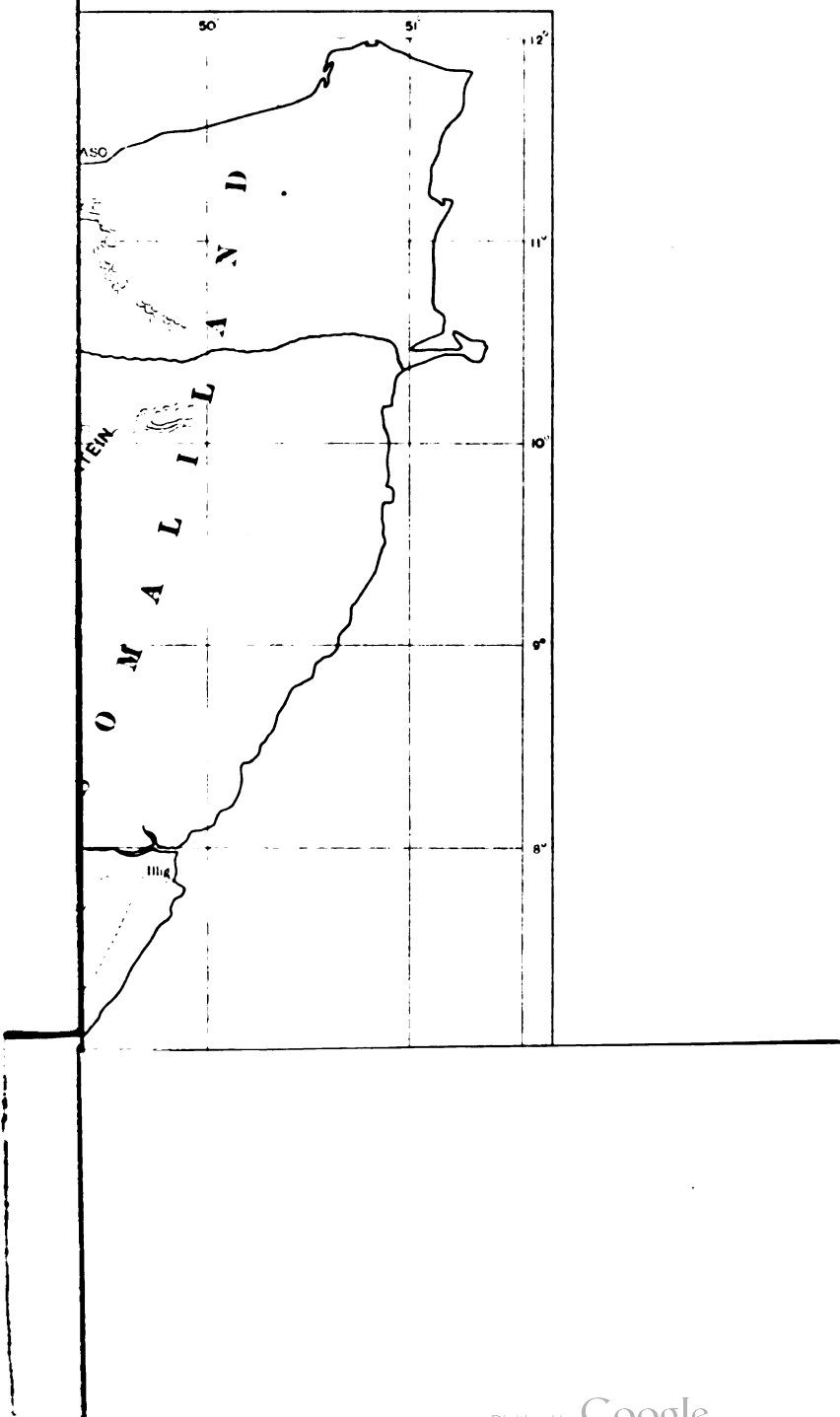
With the military reoccupation of the interior a complete transformation has been brought about in the internal condition of the country, and peace amongst the various friendly tribes within the protected area has been well established. The Somalis have shown themselves quick to respond to the new order of things, and the settlement of tribal disputes and the return of looted property have been proceeded with apace. It is clear that the establishment of a fair measure of law and order amongst the friendly tribes presents no insuperable difficulty, though the raids by Abyssinian Somali subjects from across the border are apt to lead to disturbances and reprisals.

With regard to the commission of crime in the interior by the individual, the position is not so satisfactory and the cause is to be found mainly in a class rendered destitute in the past by the depredations of the Mullah. At present, practically all cases in the interior are dealt with in accordance with Somali custom, under which a tribe is saddled with the responsibility for the actions of the individual, but it is doubtful whether, in practice, this procedure provides a sufficient deterrent, and the gradual extension of criminal law to the interior to deal with such crimes as murder, highway robbery, and caravan loot is a matter now under consideration. Immunity from dervish attack, a good breeding season owing to an abundant rainfall and good grazing, and increased employment on transport and other Government services, will all tend to mitigate this evil and bring about an era of greater prosperity.

Attention is being paid to the possibilities of date cultivation in the coastal regions and every encouragement given to Somalis to extend their "Jowari" crops in the western districts bordering on Abyssinia.

X.—TELEGRAPHS.

The Aden-Berbera wireless service has afforded uninterrupted communication between the Protectorate and other countries and ships throughout the year.



The increase in the total number of messages dealt with (9,966 against 7,381 dealt with in the previous year), is largely due to the new Berbera-Sheikh land line) where only telegrams on Government service are accepted.

The decrease in the number of messages between Berbera and Bulhar is due to a general slackness in trade, owing to the war. The slight decrease in the number of ships' messages has been due to the number of merchantmen that have been converted into transports, auxiliary cruisers, and hospital ships, whose messages are now transmitted free of coast station charges; another cause being the absence of German and Austrian boats since the declaration of war.

The Aden station, in particular, has been of great assistance to ships.

A land line has been erected from Berbera to Sheikh during the year. The utility of this line is indicated by the number of Government telegrams that have been handled, which has done away with the practice of maintaining mounted messengers at certain points between Berbera and Sheikh for carrying urgent messages.

Although since 1st November, 1914, all Government messages passing between Berbera and Bulhar, and also those transmitted from Berbera and Bulhar to Aden have been allowed to pass free of coast station charges, the revenue still exceeds that of last year, £1,049 being earned against £1,003 in the previous year. |

The Bulhar wireless station has been working fairly satisfactorily.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

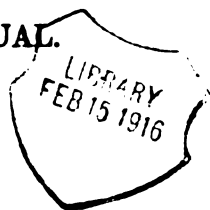
ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
830	Swaziland	1913-1914
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	1914
859	Gold Coast	"
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.



No. 868.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913, see No. 827.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1915.



L O N D O N :

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE.

By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or

E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;

or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of

T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Od. 7622-59.] Price 2d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I.—FINANCIAL	4
II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	7
III.—LEGISLATION	12
IV.—EDUCATION	13
V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	14
VI.—JUDICIAL	15
VII.—VITAL STATISTICS	16
VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS	18
IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	19

SKETCH MAP.

No. 868.

BRITISH HONDURAS

(For Report for 1913 see No. 827.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Belize,

17th September, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward hèrewith the Report on the Blue Book for the year 1914.

I have, &c.,

WILFRED COLLETT,
Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF BRITISH HONDURAS FOR THE YEAR 1914.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The financial returns in this report, except where otherwise stated, are for the year ended 31st March, 1914, and 1915. The other returns are for the calendar year 1914.

On the 1st April, 1914, the surplus on the general revenue account of the Colony was \$288,170 and on the 1st April, 1915, the surplus was \$204,341.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the financial years 1912-13, 1913-14, and 1914-15 under each head of revenue and service respectively :—

General Revenue.

Head of Revenue.	Amount collected in the Year 1912-13.	Amount collected in the Year 1913-14.	Amount collected in the Year 1914-15.
	\$	\$	\$
1 Customs	297,643	324,179	283,257
2 Light and Wharf Dues	9,895	9,547	8,014
3 Internal Taxation	87,662	97,267	96,956
4 Revenues of Government Property	27,186	23,070	12,307
5 Fees of Court or Office, &c.	22,618	24,224	20,349
6 Post Office	18,693	28,305	16,128
7 Telegraphs	10,696	10,621	10,948
8 Interest	18,910	19,104	17,844
9 Reimbursements on account of Belize Town and Harbour Improvements	119	120	120
10 Miscellaneous Receipts	2,401	3,628	2,601
11 Railway Receipts	20,054	29,191	28,399
Total Ordinary Revenue	515,877	569,256	496,923
12 Sale of Crown Lands	23,275	4,271	4,569
13 Casual Revenue	41	33	830
14 Supply of Coin	1,500	250	1,750
15 Reimbursements from Loan Funds on account of Expenditure on Railway Construction and Loan Works	34,550	17,174	9,077
Total Revenue	575,243	590,984	513,149
Local Revenue :—			
Belize District	35,043	34,532	32,109
Corozal District	3,975	5,157	4,921
Orange Walk District	2,048	2,454	5,715
Stann Creek District	4,553	6,182	4,591
Toledo District	2,058	2,185	2,570
Cayo District	1,891	1,961	3,365
Total Local Revenue	49,568	52,471	53,271
Grand Total	624,811	643,455	566,420

Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	Expenditure 1912-13.	Expenditure 1913-14.	Expenditure 1914-15.
	\$	\$	\$
1 Public Debt	43,152	41,735	45,638
2 Pensions	10,508	11,450	12,123
2a Compassionate Allowance ..	204	—	—
3 Governor	11,729	11,725	11,293
4 Colonial Secretary's Department	9,837	10,244	10,581
4a Commissioners of Currency ..	993	1,307	60
5 Treasury and Customs	24,423	25,902	25,456
6 Audit Department	3,065	3,480	3,474
7 Post Office and Telegraph De- partment	27,659	26,759	26,285
8 Judicial Department	16,124	17,221	15,412
9 District Commissioners	14,343	14,673	16,368
10 Police Department	47,253	47,589	46,345
11 Volunteer Force	8,000	8,000	8,000
12 Prison Department	14,080	13,476	14,394
13 Medical Department	40,830	41,494	45,629
14 Central Board of Health and Quarantine	1,198	1,941	3,604
15 Education	21,229	22,454	23,208
16 Surveyor General's Department	20,703	20,914	20,052
17 Botanic Station	2,439	2,431	2,397
18 Miscellaneous	8,863	11,248	15,154
19 Stann Creek Railway	42,937	49,206	54,391
19a Railway Special	—	—	3,435
20 Lighthouses	5,393	5,341	5,731
21 Public Works Department ..	17,704	18,323	17,342
22 Public Works and Telegraph Recurrent	32,830	56,572	53,822
Total Ordinary Expenditure	425,496	463,485	480,094
23 Public Works Extraordinary ..	58,494	47,387	55,267
24 Railway Extraordinary	92,954	75,889	37,828
25 Miscellaneous Extraordinary ..	779	509	—
26 Loan Works to be constructed under Ordinance No. 2 of 1911	33,408	17,174	9,077
27 Transfer to Currency Funds ..	—	4,997	—
28 War	—	—	14,257
29 Supply of coin	—	—	354
Total Expenditure	611,130	609,441	596,877
Local Expenditure :—			
Belize District	31,367	31,735	40,337
Corozal District	3,608	4,010	4,657
Orange Walk District	2,586	2,906	1,193
Stann Creek District	4,091	7,046	4,235
Toledo District	1,953	1,943	1,911
Cayo District	2,176	2,268	2,663
Total Local Expenditure	45,781	49,908	54,996
Grand Total	656,912	659,349	651,873

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure for the five years, 1910-11 to 1914-15 :—

Year.		General Revenue. \$		General Expenditure. \$
1910-11	..	459,295	..	542,810
1911-12	..	1,201,908*	..	532,123
1912-13	..	575,243	..	611,131
1913-14	..	590,982	..	609,441
1914-15	..	513,149	..	596,979

The position of the Colony on the 31st March, 1915, in respect of its assets and liabilities, as compared with the position on the 31st March, 1914, and 1913, is shown in the following table :—

<i>General Revenue.</i>					
		1913. \$		1914. \$	1915. \$
Assets	..	508,434	..	490,125	.. 388,321
Liabilities	..	201,805	..	201,955	.. 183,981
Excess of Assets		<u>306,629</u>	..	<u>388,170</u>	.. <u>204,340</u>

At the end of the financial year 1915 the surplus on General Revenue Account stood at \$204,341, of which \$81,622 was invested.

The following is a statement of the loan debt of the Colony on the 31st March, 1915 :—

					\$
Loan of 1885 (5 per cent. Debentures)	..				27,875
Loan of 1887 (4½ per cent. Debentures)	..				43,740
Loan of 1891 (4½ per cent. Debentures)	..				97,200
Railway and Public Works Loan, 1911—					
Debentures	..	..	..	..	209,466
Inscribed Stock	..	..	..	..	568,134
Total	..	..	..	..	<u>946,415</u>

The loans of 1885, 1887, and 1891 were all contracted for the improvement of the town of Belize. The local fund contributes one-half of the interest on the loans of 1885 and 1887 and one-half of the sinking fund on the loan of 1887, but nothing in respect of the loan of 1891. The sinking fund of the loan of 1885 requires no further contributions as the present capital value of the fund is sufficient to produce, at compound interest, the total amount which will be required to liquidate the loan when the payment is due. Ordinance No. 10 of 1902 has legalised the discontinuance of contributions to the fund.

*Includes \$703,593 reimbursed from loan funds on account of expenditure on railway and other public works.

Provision for the repayment of these loans has been made by the investment of the sinking funds, as set forth in the next table, which shows the market value of the investments in July, 1914 :—

Loan of 1885 (repayable 1916, \$27,875 = £5,735 12s.)	28,896
Loan of 1887 (repayable 1918, £9,000)	.. 35,340
Loan of 1891 (repayable 1923, £20,000)	.. 54,336
Railway and Public Works Loan, 1911—	
Debentures	1,080
Inscribed Stock	2,930
Total Sinking Funds	122,582

The standard of currency is the gold dollar of the United States of America, the gold coins of the United States being legally current at their respective values. The British sovereign and half-sovereign are legal tender for \$4.86 and \$2.43 respectively. The subsidiary silver currency, coined specially for the Colony, amounts to \$158,916. There is also a bronze cent. piece and nickel-bronze five-cents piece, whose issues amount to \$3,600 and \$2,500 respectively.

Under Ordinance No. 32 of 1894 currency notes have been issued for sums of \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$50 and \$100. The \$50 and \$100 notes have been withdrawn from circulation.

The amount of notes in circulation on the 31st March, 1915, was \$191,980.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The following tables give the value of the imports and exports of the Colony for the years 1912 to 1914 :—

Imports.

	1912	1913	1914
	\$	\$	\$
United Kingdom	666,765	700,859	502,833
Colonies	45,654	38,913	34,336
United States	1,327,550	1,567,582	1,503,414
Germany	55,072	52,246	59,474
France	43,813	32,830	32,958
Mexico	1,100,136	489,399	593,183
Guatemala	145,269	106,603	124,772
Honduras	77,039	161,890	95,502
Other Countries	35,610	35,046	33,934
Total Imports	3,496,908	3,185,368	2,980,406

Exports.

	1912	1913	1914
	\$	\$	\$
United Kingdom	309,336	381,788	307,066
Colonies	—	18,233	—
United States	2,249,732	2,376,685	2,360,959
Mexico	127,636	225,693	129,576
Guatemala	46,338	16,415	20,860
Honduras	87,317	76,009	78,377
France	33,200	21,996	7,600
Other Countries	2,584	9,406	14,337
Total Exports . .	2,856,143	3,126,225	2,918,775

Trade.

The trade of the Colony amounted to \$5,899,181, as compared with \$6,311,593 in the previous year, a decrease in value of \$412,412.

Imports.

In the case of imports the basis of the values is the invoice value plus the cost of packages, but does not include freight and insurance. In the case of exports it is the value as declared by exporters, excluding the cost of handling at the port of shipment.

Imports show a decline of \$264,962 in value as compared with that of the previous year, which is chiefly due to the reduced imports of wearing apparel, cotton and silk goods, &c.

Imports from the United Kingdom have decreased nearly \$200,000 in value, and from Germany increased over \$7,000. This was due to large consignments of milk, brandy, and gin imported before war broke out, the value of milk alone being over \$20,000. There was a considerable decrease in imports from the United States of America and Honduras. An increase of \$103,784 is shown over 1913 in imports from Mexico, notwithstanding the unsettled state of affairs in that country. This was due to large operations in chicle.

The values of the principal imports in groups for 1913 and 1914 showing increases and decreases were:—

<i>Articles.</i>	1914.	1913.
Apparel, including cotton and silk goods, haberdashery, millinery, hats, linens, and woollens	\$ 349,253	\$ 434,198
Bacon and hams, salted beef, meats preserved in tins or bottles, food and milk supplies ..	169,867	197,284
Boots and shoes	109,660	120,993
Preserved fruits and vegetables	43,243	47,575
Flour	107,942	106,542
Hardware and cutlery	69,082	82,934
Chicle	454,304	351,719
Mahogany and cedar	209,928	210,262
Spirits	51,758	44,103
Sugar unrefined	28,674	4,909
Tobacco, including cigars, cigarettes, leaf and manufactured	28,815	32,631
Coconuts	14,665	9,699

Imports from the Republic of Honduras, which had been rather abnormal in 1913, dropped \$66,388, and those from Guatemala increased \$18,169, due to increased imports of sugar when the duty in this Colony was taken off.

The chief articles the import of which increased in 1914 were bacons, hams, Indian corn, lard, milk, unrefined sugar, tea, chicle, coconuts, and machinery. The high prices of flour and rice made the imports of those articles appear to be greater than in 1913, but the quantities imported were actually less.

Increases and decreases in the value of imports for 1913 and 1914 by classes were:—

<i>Class II.—Raw Materials.</i>	\$
1914	721,651
1913	375,986
Increase	\$ 345,665

Class III.—Manufactured Materials.

i. Metals.

1914	215,968
1913	185,205
Increase	\$ 30,763

Class IV.—Coin, Bullion and Specie.

1914	147,386
1913	5,889
Increase	\$ 141,497
Total Increases	\$ 517,925

Class I.—Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics.

				\$'
1914	..	..	..	322,621
1913	..	..	..	454,738
Decrease				\$ 113,839

*Class III.—Manufactured Materials.**i. Textiles.*

1914	..	..	..	322,621
1913	..	..	..	454,738
Decrease				\$ 132,117

iii. Other.

1914	..	..	..	599,100
1913	..	..	..	1,076,031
Decrease				\$ 476,931
Total Decreases				\$ 722,887
Net Decreases..				\$ 204,962

Customs Import Duties amounted to \$267,806, as against \$288,256 in 1913 and \$260,837 in 1912.

Exports.

The chief articles exported, as compared with 1913, were :—

Articles.					1913	1914
Bananas	..	..	..	(bunches)	617,537	673,443
Cacao	..	..	..	(lbs.)	25,171	20,600
Cedar	..	..	..	(feet)	1,330,237	921,386
Coconuts	..	..	..	(number)	6,352,630	9,315,040
Logwood	..	..	..	(tons)	2,812	1,750
Mahogany	..	..	..	(feet)	15,027,520	13,858,327
Plantains	..	..	..	(number)	3,300,450	1,990,650
Rubber	..	..	..	(lbs.)	12,946	5,054
Rum	..	..	..	(gallons)	14,881	6,207
Sapodilla Gum	..	..	..	(lbs.)	3,163,129	3,461,809
Sponges	..	..	..	(lbs.)	1,521	922
Sugar (raw)	..	..	..	(lbs.)	122,025	64,430
Tortoise shell	..	..	..	(lbs.)	5,337	2,028

Shipments of bananas, coconuts, and chicle call for special mention, the increase being considerable. On the other hand, there was a great decrease in other commodities.

Of the total coconuts exported nearly 3,000,000 were foreign imports re-exported. Two-thirds of the total chicle exported was not the product of the Colony.

Excise.

Rum was made at nine distilleries situated on the sugar farms in the northern districts.

Their output and exportation for the last three years were:—

Year.	Gallons made.			Gallons exported.		
1912	63,701	..	12,690	..	
1913	82,787	..	14,811	..	
1914	53,220	..	6,207	..	

It will be seen that there is a very considerable decrease both in the quantity made and the quantity exported, as compared with the last two years.

Shipping.

A comparison of the nationality, number, description, and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in 1913 and 1914, is shown in the following tables:—

Entered.

Class of Ship.	Year.	British.		American.		Others.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steam	1913	132	255,403	143	2,076	168	136,880
	1914	138	258,688	102	75,649	160	108,419
Sailing	1913	462	9,223	107	2,474	108	1,766
	1914	369	8,197	50	1,185	106	1,817

Cleared.

Class of Ship.	Year.	British.		American.		Others.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steam	1913	131	252,357	143	2,001	178	140,745
	1914	145	270,256	106	73,335	165	115,281
Sailing	1913	439	9,520	123	2,796	117	1,617
	1914	374	8,113	46	1,141	139	1,898

The “others” were almost entirely Norwegian ships in the case of steamers and Honduran in the case of sailing ships.

The total shipping in tons inwards and outwards for three years is shown below :—

Year.	Inwards.	Outwards.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1912	316,660	313,404	630,064
1913	407,822	409,036	816,858
1914	453,955	470,024	923,979

The tonnage entered *with cargoes* in 1914 was 325,149, of which 319,075 tons came as steamer tonnage.

The tonnage cleared with cargoes was 295,286 of which 289,044 tons went away as steamer tonnage.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Thirty Ordinances were passed. None of these were disallowed.

The legislation for the year may be divided into two groups, viz. : Ordinary legislation and legislation specially introduced in consequence of the War.

Of the ordinary legislation the following are the principal enactments :—

Ordinance No. 7 amends the law relating to labourers, more especially as regards the supplying of intoxicants to labourers by unauthorized persons, giving the employer a more summary way of dealing with such abuses. Provision is also made for the cancellation of agreements and for the protection of labourers recruited outside the Colony.

Ordinance No. 9 simplifies the proof of deeds executed outside the Colony for the purpose of recording under Chapter 180 of the Consolidated Laws (Revised Edition).

Ordinance No. 15 amends the law relating to newspapers, especially as regards the liabilities of printers and publishers and their sureties under the bonds executed by them.

Ordinance No. 25 enables the Governor to enter into agreements for the insurance of parcels sent by post.

Of the legislation specially introduced in consequence of the War, the following are the principal enactments:—

Ordinance No. 19, enabling the Governor to regulate the sale and distribution of foodstuffs during the War.

Ordinance No. 20 gives the Governor power to arrest and detain any person reasonably suspected of having been guilty of treason, &c., or of being dangerous to the peace and good order of the Colony.

Ordinance No. 22 provides for temporary alterations in the tariff during the War.

Ordinance No. 24 enables the Governor to provide holdings for agriculturists who agree to grow food or other crops thereon during the War, and further enables the Governor to hire land for that purpose.

Ordinance No. 29 makes silver coin of the Colony legal tender for all purposes and to any amount during the War, but prohibits any further coinage of silver.

Ordinance No. 30 provides for machinery whereby the influx of impecunious persons into the Colony may be restricted.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The system of primary education in the Colony has been established under the provisions of the "Education Ordinance, 1892." Under that Ordinance, which came into operation on the 1st January, 1894, a Central Board of Education was created consisting of the Governor as President, the members of the Executive Council, and five other members appointed by the Governor. The various religious denominations are represented on the Board. Most of the schools receive aid from the Government in the forms (1) of a capitation grant on the average monthly attendance; (2) of grants on account of pupil teachers employed in accordance with the Education Rules; (3) of needlework grants and grants for industrial instruction to schools in the out-districts; and (4) of bonuses on examination results. The expenditure of the funds voted by the Legislature in respect of education is controlled by the Central Board.

The amount expended on the primary schools during the calendar year 1914 was \$20,245.55, which comprised the following items:—

Grants to schools on their average daily attendances	\$ 17,502.96
Grants on account of pupil teachers	1,069.40
Grants for needlework	255.00
Grants for agriculture	16.50
Bonuses on examination results, 1913	1,126.69
Grants on buildings, furniture, and apparatus..	275.00
	<hr/>
	\$20,245.55

The total cost of primary education in the aided schools of the Colony for the year was \$36,801.15. Of this sum the Government contributed \$22,439.90, detailed as follows:—

Grants in aid of schools	..	..	..	\$ 20,245.55
Expenses of administration	..	..	..	2,194.35

The total cost per head on the total daily average attendance (3,823) was \$9.63. The following statement shows the cost as compared with the preceding year:—

		1913.		1914.
		\$		\$
Paid by Government	.. ..	5.98	..	5.87
School Fees	.. ..	.97	..	.91
Voluntary Contributions..	..	4.11	..	2.85
Total	..	11.06	..	9.63

The average attendances during 1912, 1913, and 1914 were 3,294, 3,543 and 3,823 respectively.

The total number of schools in operation during the whole or part of the year was 54. There were 45 in 1912 and 53 in 1913.

The total average number of pupils on the roll was 5,295, as compared with 4,764 in 1912, and 5,201 in 1913.

There were also in operation four unaided primary schools, with 132 in average daily attendance.

The sum of \$736.98 was expended on account of the Cambridge Local Examinations held in December, 1914, the greater portion of which amount was for bonuses paid to teachers for successful candidates. The results of the examinations were satisfactory. Ten candidates passed the Junior, and thirteen the Preliminary Examination.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals, Asylum, and Poor House.

The following table shows the daily average number of patients under treatment and care in the various institutions during the year 1914:—

Institutions.	Daily Average.
Belize Hospital.. ..	44.780
Corozal Hospital	7.22
Orange Walk Hospital..	8.27
Stann Creek Hospital ..	6.14
Punta Gorda Hospital..	7.4
Belize:—	
Lunatic Asylum	67.39
Poor-house	34.81

Savings Bank.

There are six savings banks conducted by the Government, one in the chief town of each district. The total number of depositors on 31st December, 1914, was 939. Deposits amounted to \$64,504.39, and withdrawals to \$56,444.89. The total amount to the credit of depositors at the end of 1914 was \$114,265.73.

The rate of interest allowed is 3 per cent. per annum.

The amount of invested funds is \$100,000.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

The actual strength of police was one superintendent, one assistant, one sergeant-major, and 102 non-commissioned officers and men—the full establishment. Special constables are engaged at Christmas time and also when required for quarantine.

The following table gives the total number of prisoners committed to all the prisons in the Colony for penal imprisonment, and the daily average number of prisoners in Belize Prison, from 1912 to 1914 :—

Year.	Prisoners committed for penal imprisonment.					Daily average in Belize Prison.	
1912	439	..	..	..	72·62
1913	544	..	..	..	64·47
1914	471	..	..	..	64·71

Convicted prisoners are employed out of doors on various public works. Within the prisons they are employed in tailoring, printing, book-binding, carpentry, tin-smithing, and the manufacture of brooms, fibre mats, mattresses, ships' fenders, &c. Discipline was good, and there were only 36 punishments. There were no cases of corporal punishment. The health of the prisoners and warders was good. One prisoner died, who was ill on admission. There was one execution.

The number of offences reported to the police during the year 1914 was 1,150, or 112 less than in 1913. The number of persons summarily convicted was 1,067, or 74 less than in 1913.

Informations were filed against 68 persons in the Supreme Court. Judgment was given for the Crown in 50 cases and for the prisoner in 14. A *nolle prosequi* was entered by the Attorney-General in four cases.

There was one conviction for murder and one conviction for manslaughter.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated mean population for the year was 41,543, consisting of 20,848 males and 20,695 females.

The following table, prepared by the Registrar-General, furnishes comparative statistics for the past 10 years of the causes of death in the Colony per 1,000 of the estimated mean population :—

	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
Diseases :—										
Malarial Fever ..	9·3	9·6	7·0	6·1	7·1	5·1	6·6	5·3	5·8	4·7
Dysentery ..	1·3	·9	·7	·8	1·0	1·0	1·2	1·0	·7	1·2
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	·068	—	—	—	—	—
Yellow Fever..	·173	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis, Pulmonary	1·3	1·6	1·5	1·2	1·1	1·3	1·4	1·4	1·6	1·5
Nervous Diseases ..	1·9	1·9	2·6	·2	1·8	·9	·7	·4	2·1	1·8
Circulatory Diseases ..	·6	·4	2·7	·9	·7	1·0	1·5	1·0	1·1	·9
Respiratory Diseases ..	2·0	4·7	1·8	1·1	1·5	2·5	3·0	1·7	4·2	2·5
Digestive Diseases ..	2·8	2·0	3·1	3·1	2·8	2·8	2·8	2·1	2·8	3·0
Urinary Diseases ..	—	—	—	—	—	·7	1·1	·8	·7	1·3
Other Causes..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7·2	11·2
Total Death Rate..	32·9	29·9	22·2	23·3	21·8	23·3	25·0	24·9	26·2	28·1

The following table shows the number of deaths for every 100 births registered during the years 1909–1913, inclusive, according to their race classification, and as compared with 1914 :—

Race.	Deaths for every 100 births, 1909–13.	Deaths for every 100 births, 1914.
Indian ..	75·28	88·88
Carib ..	55·95	49·70
Negro ..	54·18	51·22
Other races ..	60·67	67·42

The birth-rate was 42 and the mortality 28·139 per thousand of the estimated mean population.

The excess of births over deaths was 627.

The number of illegitimate births was 686 out of a total of 1,796, or 38 per cent.

Three hundred and seventy marriages took place during the year, being at the rate of 11·20 per 1,000 of the mean population.

The following table gives the number of births, marriages, and deaths, and the rate per 1,000 of births and deaths for the last five years :—

Year.	Births.	Birth-rate per 1,000.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000.
1910	1,665	36·9	385	1,052	23·3
1911	1,730	42·4	412	1,012	24·8
1912	1,654	40·5	402	1,015	24·9
1913	1,653	40·15	417	1,080	26·2
1914	1,796	42·	370	1,169	28·139

During 1914 the excess of female over male births was 38 ; and of male over female deaths 88.

The average rainfall for the 10 years 1905–1914 in Belize was 95·80 inches ; the maximum (130·93 inches) being in 1911, and the minimum (63·76 inches) in 1910. But 1907 had the smallest number of days on which rain fell, and 1913 the largest. The latter year, it may be pointed out, approximated very closely to the year 1911, both in the amount of rainfall and as regards the number of days on which rain actually fell. The average number of days on which rain fell during the years 1905–1914 was 121.

Comparative Return.

Year.	Rainfall in inches.		No. of days on which rain fell.	
1905	..	106·42	..	109
1906	..	99·32	..	102
1907	..	91·17	..	80
1908	..	80·00 (?)	..	80 (?)
1909	..	64·49	..	91
1910	..	63·76	..	124
1911	..	130·93	..	166
1912	..	97·45	..	144
1913	..	126·73	..	167
1914	..	97·755	..	152

Summary of meteorological observations, taken at Belize, for the year 1914 :—

Months.	Barometer Corrected.		Relative Humidity.		Shade Temperature.		Rain.	
	Highest	Lowest	Highest	Lowest	Highest	Lowest	No. of days	Inches
January ..	30·277	29·905	97°	69°	84°	61°	11	12·575
February ..	30·230	29·927	97°	69°	83°	65°	12	5·400
March ..	30·258	29·868	94°	69°	82°	63°	11	·900
April ..	30·057	29·856	91°	67°	86°	72°	7	·130
May ..	30·086	29·833	91°	74°	87°	76°	13	2·900
June ..	30·083	29·867	97°	77°	86°	75°	13	12·050
July ..	30·115	29·923	97°	74°	87°	77°	9	5·150
August ..	30·123	29·913	94°	77°	87°	75°	12	5·750
September ..	30·085	29·853	97°	74°	88°	75°	11	10·750
October ..	30·207	29·766	94°	69°	87°	68°	15	13·200
November ..	30·209	29·803	97°	61°	85°	61°	20	18·500
December ..	30·170	29·769	97°	79°	87°	70°	18	10·450
Average ..	30·158	29·856	95·2	71·5	85·7	69·8	TO TAL. 152	97·755

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

The total revenue of the Post Office for the calendar year was \$17,436, as compared with \$28,892, in 1913, showing a decrease of \$11,456, caused by the decrease of sale of new stamps to dealers ; the receipts having fallen from \$13,579 in 1913 to \$1,786 in 1914.

The total expenditure for salaries and wages and all expenses of postal service (including money and postal order business) within the Colony was \$19,968, and for conveyance of mails beyond the Colony \$10,000, making a total expenditure of \$19,968. Foreign transit dues for letters and parcels amounted to \$3,199.

The numbers of letters and other articles sent and received from abroad from 1912 to 1914 were as follows :—

	1912	1913	1914
Ordinary Letters	240,960	246,422	225,373
Registered Articles	11,680	13,261	13,844
Postcards	18,973	19,881	17,206
Newspapers, Books, &c. .. .	180,378	152,191	167,854
Postal Parcels	12,435	10,543	16,474

The amount of inland correspondence for the same period is given in the following table :—

	1912	1913	1914
Ordinary Letters	87,485	88,520	89,388
Registered Articles	3,739	3,704	4,362
Postcards	1,237	1,307	1,024
Newspapers and Books	10,074	12,064	4,976
Parcels	1,019	1,312	1,329

The working expenses of the telegraph and telephone system amounted to \$13,066, and the receipts to \$10,694.

Foreign telegrams are sent from Corozal in this Colony to Payo Obispo in Yucatan, whence they are transmitted by the Mexican line.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The health of the Colony during the year was good. There was a serious outbreak of bubonic plague at the neighbouring port of New Orleans, but, thanks largely to the vigorous measures adopted by the authorities there, no case reached the Colony. A rat campaign was carried out at the joint cost of the Government and Town Board, but no traces of plague bacilli were found in any of the rats examined. There was an alarm of yellow fever at Payo Obispo, but on investigation it was proved to be a case of bilious remittent.

Inquiries were made into the prevalence of ankylostomiasis, and revealed that it is very frequent among the Indian population in the Toledo district and also in parts of the district of Orange Walk, the principal causes assigned being ignorance of the most rudimentary laws of sanitation and hygiene. It is anticipated that further investigations will be made in the near future on behalf of the Rockefeller Foundation, who propose to send a Commission to confer with the Government as to the best methods of coping with this insidious disease.

The Colony contributed exhibits at the Tropical Products Exhibition held in London in June and July, and was represented by a delegate, the Honble. W. L. McKinstry. In connection with the exhibition a useful pamphlet was prepared by Mr. E. L. F. English, M.A., called *British Honduras Resources and Industries*. The pamphlet gives in an abridged form notes regarding the principal products of the Colony, with interesting data about the forest timbers.

No apparent results have been obtained from the advertisement gained by the Colony at the exhibition, as all internal development was rudely checked by the outbreak of war in August.

The general condition of the Colony from a police point of view was good; only one capital sentence was carried out. This is the more satisfactory as, owing to the unemployment consequent on the war, it might have been expected that crime would increase. The visit of H.M.S. "Lancaster" at the end of 1913 and early in 1914, undoubtedly had a salutary effect, while the illicit exportation of arms and ammunition has been reduced to negligible proportions.

Affairs in the neighbouring Republic of Mexico have been a constant source of anxiety to the Government.

The task of carrying out the revision of the laws was completed during the year by His Honour Judge Shaw, who was appointed Special Commissioner for this purpose. Mr. Shaw was, while on leave in the autumn, promoted to be a Puisne Judge in Ceylon and he has been succeeded by Mr. R. B. Roden, late Acting Administrator of St. Vincent. The revision of the laws has not, unfortunately, obviated the necessity of further legislation.

The trade of the Colony declined in value to the extent of \$412,412. This may be attributed entirely to the war. At the beginning of the year everything pointed to an exceptionally good trade year, and this is borne out by the actual figures. For the first seven months of the year imports increased by over 8 per cent. against the figures for 1913, while from August onward they declined steadily, and at the end of the year were 21 per cent. below the figures for the corresponding period of 1913. Similarly, from January to July, exports increased 54 per cent. over the figures for the same period in 1913, but from August onward they decreased steadily and show a decline of 40 per cent. on the figures for the same period in 1913. The total value of imports declined to the extent of \$204,962. This is accounted for mainly by reduced imports of wearing apparel, cotton and silk piece goods, food, drink supplies, haberdashery, boots, shoes, cattle, and trucks for mahogany works. The principal cause of the decline in prosperity was the general depression in trade due to the war, which especially affected the market for such staple exports as mahogany and cedar. Further, many of the principal employers of labour had hitherto carried on their operations with borrowed money, but were unable to obtain a renewal of their advances. They found it necessary, therefore, to reduce their labour staffs and the wages paid. Owing to political troubles in Mexico, the Mengel Company had shut down and, as indicated in the Report for 1913, the American market had been glutted owing to the feverish haste with which American concessionaires in Mexico had been pulling out mahogany in view of the near expiration of the terms of their concessions.

These conditions, combined with the alarming increase in the prices of flour, rice, sugar, beans, and other staples of life imported into the Colony, caused very considerable anxiety, and the Government decided

to explain the situation clearly to labourers and employers and to call upon them to make the best of things. Both parties responded patriotically. At the same time a scheme was started under Government auspices and aided by Government funds at Stann Creek with the double object of growing cheap food-stuffs and of providing a safety-valve for unemployment. It is not expected that the scheme will prove a financial success to the Government, but it will have served its purpose in tiding over a difficult time. The reality of the unemployment is shown by the fact that during the hiring-season for the year 1913-14 there were hired in Belize 1,717 labourers at an average wage of \$12.64; during the 1914-15 season only 714 labourers were signed on, at an average wage of \$8.21. By the irony of fate it thus happened that a Colony where hitherto the one cry has been for more labour and more population has actually had to legislate with a view to preventing an influx of labourers looking for work from adjoining countries.

It has been found advisable to alter the Customs tariff with a view to increasing the taxation on luxuries.

It is satisfactory to note that, despite the uncertain position of affairs and the depression in trade, there was nothing in the nature of a run on the Savings Bank, the position on the 31st March, 1915, being even more satisfactory than that on the 31st March, 1914.

The Volunteer Force was called out for actual military service in August and steps were taken to defend the Colony against a raid from the one or two fast German cruisers which might have called in for coal, cash, or for pure mischief. The Volunteers have worked well and the efficiency of the force has increased enormously.

Subscriptions were opened for the Prince of Wales's Fund, the Belgian Relief Fund, the British Red Cross Fund, and liberal amounts have been collected. In view of the difficult financial position, it was impossible for the Colony to vote any pecuniary assistance to the Imperial Government, but a considerable amount has been spent in improving the efficiency of the Volunteer Corps, which should be able to give a very good account of itself if called on to do so.

Public Works.

During the year a 5-kilowatt wireless telegraph station, with a range of 400 miles, was installed and put to work with satisfactory results.

An improvement to the lighting of the coast was accomplished by the installation of a new lighthouse at East Snake Cay, having a fifth order flash light with a range of 14 miles, and also the fixed light at English Cay was raised 25 feet, both towers at these places being of reinforced concrete. Reclamation of 34 acres of land from the sea at Belize was continued, and the construction of the roads on same commenced. The public offices and buildings at Punta Gorda were completed.

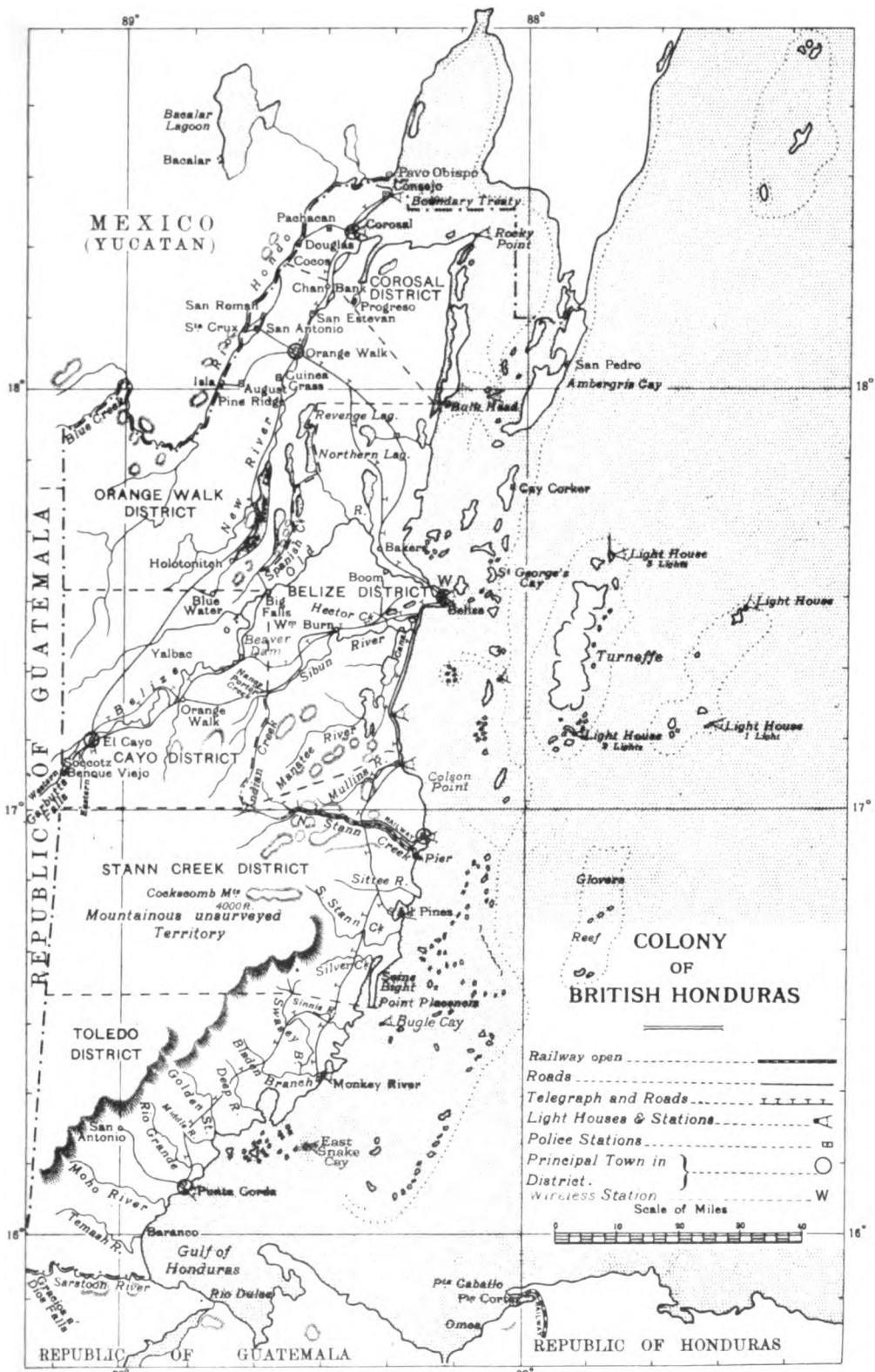
The Canal from Sibun River to Manatee was continued and the Sibun River made navigable by being cleared of rocks and runs to open up the Crown lands in the interior.

Roadwork over swamps, and bridges of varying spans and designs, were undertaken at various places in the Colony and all public buildings maintained in good order.

On the railway at Stann Creek improvements were carried out by the introduction of a light branch tramway running towards Mullins River, the replacing of a bridge over Welcome Creek, and by the conversion of an additional 105 feet of the steamer pier from its original timber construction to reinforced concrete of massive design, to enable steamers to come alongside with safety.

R. WALTER,

Colonial Secretary.



COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

L O N D O N :
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK, S.E.

1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 869.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1914-15.

(For previous Report see No. 774.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1915.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LIMITED, THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd.7622-60]. Price $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

CONTENTS

	PAGE.
POPULATION	4
TRADE AND SHIPPING	4
ADMINISTRATION IN THE PROTECTORATE	7
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE: IMPORTS AND EXPORTS	7

A sketch map of the Protectorate will be found in Report No. 774:
[Cd. 7050-15].

No. 869.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Office of the High Commissioner
for the Western Pacific,
Suva, Fiji,
9th August, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward a copy of a letter from the Acting Resident Commissioner of the Solomon Islands, transmitting copies of the Protectorate, for the financial Report on year 1914-1915.

I have, &c.,

BICKHAM ESCOTT,
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Office of the Resident Commissioner,
Tulagi.
8th July, 1915.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

In compliance with the instructions contained in the circular letter of the Secretary of State dated 2nd March, 1914, I have the honour to transmit copies of a Report on this Protectorate for the year ended 31st March, 1915.

I have, &c.,

F. J. BARNETT,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency

Sir Bickham Escott, K.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner
for the Western Pacific,
Suva, Fiji.

REPORT FOR 1914-1915 ON THE BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

POPULATION.

EUROPEAN.

No census of the population has been taken during the past year, but it is known that the European population is steadily increasing, and at the present time there must be over 600 settled in various parts of the group; of this total 35 represent those, with their wives and families, in Government employ, and 98 are engaged in Mission work.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Since 1st July, 1913, 3 births, 4 marriages, and 16 deaths have been registered. The deaths include 1 infant, 2 females, and 13 males, the causes being malaria 6, dysentery 4, pneumonia 2, heart disease 1, blood-poisoning 1, drowning 1, effects of diving 1.

NATIVE POPULATION.

The native population has been estimated to be 150,000, including the natives of the outlying islands of Santa Cruz and Lord Howe. Owing to various causes the native population is said to be decreasing; during the past eighteen months a large number has been carried off by dysentery; the island of San Cristoval appears to have lost more from this cause than other islands, whilst in some districts whole villages were wiped out. Malaita remains the most densely populated, but dysentery and the continual fighting among themselves must have greatly reduced the numbers. On Choiseul, where there has been incessant intertribal fighting during the past year, it is reported that numbers of men, women, and children have been killed. In the Shortland district the decrease is very marked; most of the natives remaining are refugees from the island of Bougainville, who have settled in and about the Shortland Islands. As comparatively few young children are to be seen about native villages, it may be taken as a sure indication that the birth-rate is decreasing.

TRADE AND SHIPPING.

Shipping facilities to and from the Protectorate have been maintained by the steamers of Messrs. Burns, Philp & Company, Limited, and Levers' Pacific Plantations, Limited, each company running a steamer, of about 2,000 tons, every six weeks from Sydney, thus providing a regular three-weekly service. The war has not caused any serious break in the service, although it was found necessary by Messrs. Burns, Philp & Co., Ltd., to place, for a short time, a smaller vessel on the run.

From the outset of the war both companies raised the rates of freight and passages by 25 per cent. This extra rate was taken off in February. The line of steamers trading to the Gilbert, Ellice, and Marshall Islands, which made Tulagi a port of call prior to the outbreak of war, had to discontinue the calling, but it is now to be resumed.

Local and inter-island shipping is well maintained by a fleet of small steamers and auxiliary vessels, but there is no regularity in their running, which is arranged as circumstances demand. The two oversea steamers, after reporting at Tulagi, proceed as far as Shortland and call at several ports, collecting freights and delivering cargo. Their stay in the group is seventeen days.

Inward freights are steadily increasing, but the war has had its effects on exports. The increasing export of copra has not made up for the total collapse of the ivory nut trade, the regular shipments of which formerly amounted to several hundred tons by each steamer. There has also been a marked falling off in the export of shell.

Trade in the group has been good. Prices have naturally increased all round on imported goods, and, notwithstanding the falling markets for island produce, traders have kept going. It speaks well for the Protectorate that there has not been any commercial failures, although it is probable that a few of the smaller traders will have to withdraw until the market rates for copra and other products are commensurate with the increased prices paid for all commodities.

COPRA.

The production of copra, the principal item of export, is steadily increasing. Coconut plantations that were established some eight years ago are in bearing, the average crop being up to the most sanguine expectations. A falling off of the produce from native trees has resulted from the fall in price of copra, as the natives, not understanding the cause of the drop in price, were reluctant to sell, and preferred to let the nuts rot on the ground rather than accept the lower price offered by traders.

Since last year there has not been any appreciable improvement or increase in the cultivation of coconuts, planters being restricted by shortage of labour and the general disinclination to extend operations during the continuance of the war.

IVORY NUTS.

The closing of the market for this item has been a serious blow to the Protectorate. Ivory nuts are grown extensively throughout the group and the export provided a profitable living for a number of small traders. Prior to the outbreak of war the price paid was £11 per ton. At the present time there must be many hundreds of tons going to waste; even at the reduced price of £6 to £7 the industry would find employment for many and quite £20,000 in value would be realised annually. The loss of this item of trade has not been made good by any other item.

BANANAS.

The cultivation of bananas for export is still in the hands of a few growers in the eastern part of the group, and there is no reason why a very extensive trade should not be opened up with Australia. The prices realised on the fruit shipped have been very encouraging, and that fact should induce other persons to take up the cultivation of this highly remunerative product. Planters in the western part were anxious to grow bananas for the Sydney market, but could not come to any arrangement with the shipping companies, which would not entertain the proposal to take their final departure from a western port as the support offered did not warrant a special steamer. This means that banana growing will be restricted to places within easy distance of Tulagi, the port of final departure.

COTTON.

The cultivation of cotton has been abandoned, mainly owing to the scarcity of suitable cheap labour to gather the crops.

RUBBER.

No progress has been made in the cultivation of rubber.

SHELL.

The war seriously affected the price of all kinds of pearl shell, and shipments in transit at the outbreak of war were held up in Sydney, and for several months no shell was exported. Latterly a market has been established and the trade has been renewed; the prices are lower, but traders are satisfied with the returns.

TIMBER.

The export of timber logs, principally Dilo (*Callophyllum inophyllum*), which up to six months ago gave promise of great expansion, suddenly ceased. the Sydney buyers, for some reason not known, having cancelled their arrangements. At the present time the industry is at a standstill. There is no reason why the timbers of the Protectorate should not be used locally; the importation of timber from Australia forms a large item and the high rates for freight should alone be a sufficient inducement for the establishment of saw mills. Thousands of valuable logs are destroyed in clearing land, whereas, with a small, well-managed sawing plant, they could be turned to great profit, and rough sawn timber would be extensively used in the construction of labour lines and work sheds. The price for imported timber for building purposes averages 30s. per 100 feet super.

STOCK.

The Protectorate has been found to be well suited for raising cattle, and many plantations have herds grazing among the coconuts, thus saving a great number of labourers in the clearing of undergrowth. A regulation to protect and guard against stock diseases will shortly be introduced. Sheep have not done well, but pigs thrive and prove a source of great profit to the breeders.

ADMINISTRATION IN THE PROTECTORATE.

In January last Mr. C. M. Woodford, C.M.G., the Resident Commissioner, retired from the service on a well earned pension. Mr. Woodford had been for many years associated with the Solomon Islands, and, from the establishment of the British Protectorate, successfully carried out the very arduous task of developing and establishing the Government. In the early days this was no easy matter, and lately the work incidental to controlling a new and rapidly progressing Protectorate was beset with many difficulties, which by tact and ability he was able to overcome.

No successor to Mr. Woodford has so far been appointed, the Government in the meantime being administered by Mr. F. J. Barnett, the Treasurer and Collector of Customs.

The rapid development of the Group has necessitated an increased staff of officers. Formerly everything was done from the Resident Commissioner's Office, but the work has now been distributed among different departments. The advancement all round now demands that the departmental staff be increased to cope with the work. The establishment of a wireless station at Tulagi, while bringing the place in closer touch with the outside world, will also increase work and responsibilities. The Medical, Native Labour, Survey, Public Works, Police and Prisons Departments are developing, and improvements are being effected. The control of native affairs, always a difficult problem, is receiving great attention, but it is expected that some years must elapse before complete control of the natives can be brought about.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE: IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

I append the following statistics of revenue and expenditure, and of imports and exports for the past three years:—

	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.
	£	£	£
Revenue	15,432	24,520	22,646
Expenditure	16,500	18,565	23,146
Imports	131,761	162,761	133,062
Exports	109,921	148,265	87,539

F. J. BARNETT,

Acting Resident Commissioner.

8th July, 1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.



No. 870.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECT-
ORATE.

REPORT FOR 1914-15.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 829.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1915.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE

By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1915.

[Cd. 7622-61]. Price 1½d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I. FINANCIAL	4
II. TRADE AND AGRICULTURE	5
III. LEGISLATION	6
IV. EDUCATION	6
V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	8
VI. JUDICIAL	9
VII. VITAL STATISTICS	9
VIII. POSTAL SERVICE	11
IX. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	12

MAP.

No. 870.

TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 829).

THE ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Office of the High Commissioner for the
Western Pacific.

Suva, Fiji, 14th September, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit to you the following report by Mr. H. E. W. Grant, C.M.G., Agent and Consul, Tonga, on the Tongan Islands Protectorate for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1915.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

EYRE HUTSON,

Acting High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

H.B.M.'s Agency and Consulate,

Tonga,

20th August, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith a report on the Tongan Islands Protectorate for the year 1914-15.

2. The comparative statements of revenue and expenditure for the years 1913-14 and 1914-15 contained in the report are for the financial years ended the 31st March, 1914, and the 31st March, 1915, respectively. The statistics relating to imports and exports, shipping, etc., are in respect of the calendar years specified in the returns.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. E. W. GRANT,

H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul.

His Excellency

The High Commissioner for the Western Pacific,

Suva, Fiji.

REPORT ON THE TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE FOR THE YEAR 1914-1915.

The Kingdom of Tonga embraces the groups of islands of Tongatabu, Haabai, and Vavau, together with the outlying islands of Niuatobutabu, Tafahi, and Niuafoou.

The main group was discovered by Tasman in 1643.

Niuatobutabu and Tafahi were named Keppel and Boscawen respectively by Wallis in 1767.

Niuafoou was discovered by Captain Edwards in H.M.S. "Pandora" on the 3rd August, 1791, and named by him Proby Island. It is considered to be the Good Hope Island of Schouten.

Captain Cook visited the islands on his second voyage in 1773 and again on his third voyage in 1777. On account of the disposition of the natives he named the group the Friendly Islands.

The seat of government is at Nukualofa in Tongatabu.

I.—FINANCIAL.

GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEARS 1913-14 AND 1914-15.

Revenue.

1913-14.	1914-15.
£32,489 	£36,114

Expenditure.

1913-14.	1914-15.
£39,103 	£36,414

The revenue was less than the estimate by £5,687, but in excess of that for 1913-14 by £3,625. Receipts under the head of Customs were short of the estimate by £5,611, but those on account of taxes were £1,660 in excess.

The equilibrium between revenue and expenditure was well maintained, notwithstanding that the sum of £5,559 was spent on public works of a non-recurrent nature.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure for the five years 1910 to 1914-15 :—

		Revenue.		Expenditure.
		£		£
1910	..	44,007	...	42,617
1911	..	51,050	..	50,011
1912-13	..	43,938	..	38,497
1913-14	..	32,489	..	39,103
1914-15	..	36,114	..	36,414

The excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1915, was £17,180.

II.—TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Comparative Statement of the total value of Imports and Exports (exclusive of specie and South Sea Island produce imported for exportation) for the five years 1910 to 1914 :—

Year.		Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
		£	£	£
1910	..	160,543	245,946	406,489
1911	..	182,122	240,103	422,225
1912	..	169,472	216,511	385,983
1913	..	81,014	82,321	163,365
1914	..	87,702	73,036	160,738

SHIPPING.

Total shipping entered :—1913 : Number of vessels, 52 ; tonnage, 58,692. 1914 : Number of vessels, 33 ; tonnage, 57,474.

Total shipping cleared :—1913 : Number of vessels, 31 ; tonnage, 57,388. 1914 : Number of vessels, 30 ; tonnage, 54,099.

AGRICULTURE.

The prosperity of Tonga rests at present almost entirely on the copra industry. The value of the fruit exported in 1914 was only £442, as against £9,605 in 1910. Owing to the presence of an insect pest known as the "fruit fly," the citrus fruits have been excluded for some time past from the Australian and New Zealand markets, and the interruption of a direct steamship service with Auckland has practically annihilated the trade in bananas.

Beyond the cultivation of ground provisions—mainly yams, taro, and sweet potatoes—for home consumption, the energy of both the natives and the European settlers during the year under review was

devoted chiefly to the development of the coconut plantations. There is plenty of room, however, for subsidiary products other than oranges, lemons, and bananas, and the importance of establishing those for which the soil and climate of the group may be suitable is not escaping the attention of the Tongan Government. The matter is one which has been brought into special prominence during the last few years owing to the number of occasions on which these islands have been visited by gales of sufficient force to damage severely the coconut growing areas by blowing unripe nuts from the trees. The recovery of the plantations, to which reference was made in the report for 1913-14, received a considerable set back by hurricane weather in October and December, 1914, and in March, 1915.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Fourteen Ordinances were passed during the year 1914.

The most important legislative achievement was the reform of the Tongan Parliament. Under the Constitution the Legislative Assembly consisted of all the nobles of the kingdom, an equal number of representatives of the people, and the ministers of the Crown. The membership on this basis comprised about seventy, and, in the ordinary course, there was only one session in every three years. At a meeting of the Assembly on the 17th December, 1914, specially convoked, the King of Tonga, in a convincing address from the throne, proposed for consideration that the Assembly should be composed of seven nobles elected by their peers, seven elective representatives of the people, and the ministers of the Crown, numbering seven, or twenty-one members in all, and that the Assembly should meet annually. The proposed reform was agreed to practically unanimously. There can be little question that the substitution of a thoroughly representative legislative body of manageable dimensions, meeting annually, in the place of the former somewhat unwieldy Assembly, meeting once only every three years, will mark an epoch in Tongan history and go far in advancing the good government of the Island Kingdom.

IV.—EDUCATION.

Primary Schools.

At the end of 1914 there were 57 public primary schools in operation, as against 55 at the close of 1913.

The number of pupils on the roll was 2,780, showing an increase of 54 as compared with the roll for 1913. Regularity in attendance was seriously affected by an epidemic of whooping-cough.

Fifty-three schools were examined during the year. Of these, 15 were classified as good, 23 as satisfactory, 5 as weak, and 10 as very weak.

In view of the dearth of efficient teachers, special courses in "Teaching" have been introduced into the curriculum of Tonga College.

There are now no State-aided schools in the kingdom.

Tonga College.

In a report on the general condition of the Government Schools for the year 1914, Mr. R. N. Burns, the Chief Assistant Master, Tonga College, who is at present in charge of the College, writes as follows :—

"The roll number at Tonga College at the end of 1913 was 157. During the year 71 of these left and 42 new students were admitted, making the present roll number 128. This decrease in attendance must not be regarded as unsatisfactory, as it is due to the departure of aged students whose inability to accommodate themselves to the new conditions at the College made their removal essential. The new students admitted were youths of an average age of 16 years 8 months. This type makes the most satisfactory scholar. In making new regulations for the College due consideration has been given to the advisability of establishing a vernacular course for the older type of student, thus giving the English masters greater opportunity for the display of their abilities.

"Since the beginning of the year most of the teaching has been conducted in English. The progress of the students in all grades has been very gratifying. It is possible to converse in the European language with quite 25 per cent. of the boys, and in the higher class divisions a cult for reading has been developed with considerable success. At the annual examination 80 per cent. of the students qualified for promotion.

"Considerable attention has been paid to agriculture. An area of 33 acres at Mata-ki-Eua has been cleared and is under systematic cultivation. The plantation is divided into two sections, the staple crops of yams and kumalas occupying each half, while we rotate pines and tapioca acre by acre as the main crops are removed. Copra has not been neglected, and we have planted some 1,700 coconut trees. Bananas are also represented to the extent of 1,200 palms. Next year it is hoped to undertake experimental work, which will be co-related with theory in the class room.

"The future of the College appears to me to be particularly bright. The institution is thoroughly well organised, and there is gradually entering into the lives of the boys a certain appreciation for study. The masters are keen on their work and interested in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the College. With such a spirit existing between masters and students nothing but success can result from the work of the institution."

The Tongan is an apt pupil. The case of Inoke Sateki may be cited as an interesting illustration of that fact. During a visit to the Protectorate in the latter part of 1911, High Commissioner Sir Francis May was struck by the excellent draughtsmanship of the youth in question, who was then a student at the Tonga College. Sateki was subsequently offered the post of a supernumerary surveyor in the Lands Department of Fiji, which he accepted, and entered on his duties in March, 1912. The Commissioner of Lands, Fiji, when reporting recently on Sateki's work, stated that he was by far the best draughtsman the Department had ever trained. He added that not only was he a fine draughtsman, but that he was making good progress towards becoming a surveyor, and only required field practice. Without any training in mathematics, he had learned to use a logarithmic table, to calculate co-ordinates, take out areas by double longitudes, obtain azimuth, time, and latitude from sun observations, and solve the usual problems in trigonometry.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS.

A hospital, in charge of a European doctor, is maintained in each of the islands of Tongatabu, Haabai, and Vavau. Tongan subjects receive free medical treatment.

Each hospital is provided with male and female wards, a dispensary, an operating theatre, and store-rooms. Native houses have been erected in the hospital compounds for isolation cases.

Native medical students are trained at the hospitals for the purpose of serving as dispensers in the outlying islands and in districts not easily accessible to the Medical Officers. Dispensaries have been established at Mua (in Tongatabu), and in the islands of Eua, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu.

GAOLS.

There are ten gaols—three at Nukualofa (one for males and two for females); one at Haabai (general); three at Vavau (one for males and two for females); and one (general) at each of the islands of Eua, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

POLICE COURTS.

The kingdom of Tonga is divided into five magisterial districts, namely, Tongatabu and Eua, Haabai, Vavau, Niuafoou, and Niuatobutabu.

The number of criminal cases tried in the Police Courts during the year 1914 was 14,200, as against 14,362 in 1913. This large number does not indicate that there has been a great amount of crime. It is due to the fact that the police have maintained their accustomed activity in prosecuting for breaches of the taxation laws and offences against the sanitary and health laws, all of which are grouped under the head of criminal cases.

The prosecution failed in 1,769 cases, and 404 cases were pending on the 31st December, 1914.

The number of civil cases heard in 1914 was 567. Judgment was given for the plaintiff in 484 cases, and for the defendant in 68. On the 31st December, 1914, 15 cases were pending.

SUPREME COURT.

Fourteen criminal cases were tried in the Supreme Court of Tonga in the year 1914, with six acquittals.

In addition to the criminal cases which came before the Supreme Court in 1914 there were 18 civil, 52 divorce, and 11 appeal (7 criminal and 4 civil) cases. The Court also dealt with 525 applications for exemption from payment of taxes, of which 462 were granted either in whole or in part.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population of Tongan subjects on the 31st December, 1914, was 23,121, showing an increase of 169 as compared with the estimated population at the close of 1913.

The birth-rate per 1,000 for 1914 was 34·60, as against 35·85 in 1913, and the death-rate 27·29, as against 17·34.

The following table shows the number of births, marriages, and deaths registered in the Supreme Court of Tonga during the five years 1910-14 :—

Year.		Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.
1910	..	730	322	451
1911	..	748	302	665
1912	..	738	278	557
1913	..	823	275	398
1914	..	800	222	631
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Totals	3,839	1,399	2,702
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Averages	767	279	540
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

PUBLIC HEALTH.

A matter which is causing grave concern and engaging the serious attention of the Tongan Government and of the Medical Department is the rapid growth of tuberculosis throughout the kingdom.

The Chief Medical Officer, Dr. H. M. Cowan, has opened in Nukualofa an educational campaign which has for its object the bringing home to the people the insidious nature of the disease, the way in which it can be communicated, and the measures to be adopted for arresting the spread of infection. Similar steps were undertaken by Dr. Cowan in Haabai when he occupied the post of Medical Officer of that district.

It is proposed to establish classes for the instruction of the native clergy in order that they may be able to take up the matter in connection with their pastoral work. The services of those engaged in teaching in the schools will also be enlisted. In this way the people will be gradually familiarised with the gravity of the situation, with the result, it is hoped, that they will be prepared to co-operate readily with the Medical Department in coping with it.

Dr. Cowan has already addressed large and representative audiences on this vital question with encouraging results.

CLIMATE.

The maximum temperature for the year recorded at Tonga College, Nukualofa, was 92·5 degrees, in January, and the minimum 40 degrees, in June and August.

The total rainfall was 97·36 inches.

VIII.—POSTAL SERVICE.

The revenue of the Post Office for 1914 was £640 as against £688 for 1913.

Prior to the outbreak of the European war the revenue for 1914 promised to be well in excess of that for the previous year; but the reduction of the steamship itinerary, the cessation of the ordinary islands' tourist traffic, and the postal restrictions which followed the declaration of hostilities reacted most unfavourably on the receipts of the Department.

Expenditure on account of the Post Office is merged in that of the Custom-house, the two departments being conducted in the same offices by the one staff.

- The Government pays no mail subsidies, and expends practically nothing on the local conveyance of mails.

Tonga is not in the Postal Union.

Telegraph and telephone services are, as yet, non-existent, but the Government of Tonga have decided to establish a wireless telegraph station in Tongatabu and to work it in connection with the wireless service of Fiji.

Telegrams at present can only be received and sent by post via Auckland and Sydney, or by "wireless" when a steamer of the Union S.S. Company of New Zealand happens to be in port. The helplessness of the kingdom in the absence of any means of telegraphic communication was never more clearly demonstrated than immediately after the outbreak of war, when, for a period of nearly two months, none of the Company's steamers called at Tonga. During that time, with the exception of a few days in the early part of September, when one of the ships of the Australian squadron paid a flying visit to Vavau and Nukualofa, the group was completely isolated.

Prior to August, 1914, British, foreign, colonial, and interinsular mails were conveyed by steamers of the Union Company by means of a fortnightly service between Sydney and Auckland, via Fiji and Samoa. Since then a four-weekly service only has been the rule, the New Zealand Government having requisitioned several of the Company's vessels. A steamer now leaves Auckland once every four weeks for Nukualofa, calling at Suva, Fiji, *en route*, and returning via Haabai, Vavau, Samoa (Apia), and Fiji (Levuka and Suva) to Auckland. The transshipment of goods and mails from Sydney takes place generally at Suva. Though presumably unavoidable, this curtailment of the service, involving as it does the disappearance of direct communication with New Zealand, has dealt a severe blow to Tonga.

The transactions in connection with the money order system for 1914 were as follow :-

	Total.
Money orders issued by Tonga	£8,997
Money orders drawn on Tonga	£223

As the figures for 1913 were £12,726 and £519 respectively, the reduction in the year's turnover was relatively considerable.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Owing to the necessity of restricting expenditure as much as practicable, only those public works which were of an urgent nature were undertaken. These included, in Tongatabu, the continuation of the work of metalling natural-soil main roads, according to the scheme which had been sanctioned, the reconstruction of the stone facing of the foreshore at Nukualofa, repairs to the wharf, the painting and repairing of various official quarters, and the removal of the quarantine station from the Island of Fafa to that of Makaha. Government buildings were repaired at Haabai and Vavau, and at Niuatobutabu the erection of a landing stage was commenced. The wharf at Vavau was repaired.

THE WAR.

This report would not be complete without a reference to the supreme crisis which has arisen in the affairs of the world.

It was not until the 1st September, 1914, that the wholly unexpected and momentous news that Great Britain was at war reached Nukualofa. Prior to that date, no communication had been received from beyond the group since the 28th July. The only mail steamers calling at Tongan ports are those of the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand. These ceased to arrive when due, but by no one was it conjectured that the interruption in the service was owing to the existence of a state of war.

Notwithstanding the distance of Tonga from the centre of conflict, it need hardly be observed that the fact that Great Britain had been compelled to draw the sword and that the Empire was in arms profoundly stirred all classes of the community, and had the immediate effect of overshadowing all events of local interest.

The number of residents in Tonga of both sexes claiming British nationality is estimated to be less than 400, many of whom have never been beyond the limits of the kingdom. These remote islands, nevertheless, have been represented in the rally of Britons overseas to the colours, and those who have responded to the call of patriotism have done so entirely on their own resources.

Contributions from those who from a variety of causes have not been able to render personal service are being remitted periodically to the National Relief and other War Funds.

A branch of the Patriotic League of Britons Overseas has been founded in Nukualofa, and subscriptions have been raised for the purpose of enabling the members to participate in the proposal of the League to present a warship to the Nation and so identify themselves with the defence of the Empire.

Both the Tongan Government and the Tongan people—nobles, chiefs, and commoners—have given tangible expression to their loyalty and to their sympathy with those who have suffered distress in consequence of the war by contributing generously to the relief funds.

H. E. W. GRANT,

H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul.

Nukualofa, Tonga.

20th August, 1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

A N N U A L.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	1914-1915
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1914
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915

M I S C E L L A N E O U S.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

L O N D O N :
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 871.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1914–15.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 824.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

January, 1916.



LONDON:

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE.

By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Od. 7622-62.] Price 2d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	9
LEGISLATION	15
EDUCATION	15
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	16
CRIMINAL STATISTICS	17
VITAL STATISTICS	18
GENERAL REMARKS	18
MAP.	

No. 871.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 824.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Barbados,

14th October, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1914-15, with the report thereon by Major J. A. Burdon, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, etc.

L. PROBYN,

Governor.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, P.C., M.P.,

etc., etc., etc.

10, 7 1915

REPORT ON THE BARBADOS BLUE BOOK FOR 1914-15.

FINANCIAL.

General.

1. In the year 1914-15 :—

			£
The Revenue was	..	..	223,091
The Expenditure was	..	..	236,796
			<hr/>
Deficit on year's transactions			£13,705
			<hr/>

The balance to the credit of the general revenue, which stood at £19,316 at the close of the previous financial year, was thus reduced to £35,611 on March 31st, 1915.

2. The revenue given above includes a loan of £9,000 raised to meet expenditure incurred in 1912-13 for the purchase of military property ; and also a loan of £20,000 raised for the purpose of a war contribution to the Imperial Government. If these items be excluded as abnormal, and if the £20,000 war gift be also omitted on the expenditure side for the same reason, the *normal* figures for 1914-15 will be :—

					£
Revenue	..	..	..	..	194,091
Expenditure	..	..	..	..	216,796
					<hr/>
Deficit on normal (but including defence)					
transactions	..	..	..	..	£22,705
					<hr/>

3. The corresponding revenue and expenditure for the year 1913-14 were £214,865 and £222,177, respectively.

Revenue.

4. The normal revenue was £20,774 less than that for the previous year. During the four months of peace—viz., from April to July—the revenue was only £85 short of the proportionate estimate for that period. It was actually £821 in excess of the revenue for the similar period of the preceding year. The falling off, therefore, occurred entirely during the eight months of war and is mainly attributable to the war. There were, however, subsidiary causes which must not be overlooked. Firstly, the low prices obtained for the bulk of the 1914 sugar crop reduced the spending power of planters and merchants. Secondly, the cotton crop fell in quantity by nearly one half. Thirdly, a severe drought occurred during the first three quarters of the year.

It is true that this drought increased the receipts derived from import duties on foodstuffs; but this was probably balanced by reduced imports on articles of secondary necessity; and any such gain must have been more than counterbalanced by the check to the employment of labour, by reduction in the spending power of the peasants, and by the natural curtailment of expenditure due to anticipation of a short crop for 1915. In addition to the foregoing, there were two other untoward circumstances. Owing to the gradual closing down of work on the Panama Canal, there was a considerable reduction in the money remitted thence; and, owing to financial conditions in Brazil, there has been a great falling off in visitors, residential and otherwise, from that country. To the above category of woes, serious, but not by themselves sufficient to cause the shrinkage of revenue recorded, the war added:—A decrease in remittances from countries other than the Canal Zone; a considerable decrease in volume of shipping; a serious decrease in the coaling trade; a cessation of the tourist trade; a considerable rise in price of almost all imported goods, especially foodstuffs and clothing; and a natural tendency to individual retrenchment and economy. The only offset to all this was a rise in the price of sugar. But as very little of the 1914 crop remained unsold at the beginning of the war, this advantage affected a few individuals and the result on the revenue was inconsiderable and may be neglected.

In view of the long catalogue of adverse circumstances it is remarkable that Barbados should have suffered a shrinkage of revenue of only ten per cent.

5. Two steps towards additional taxation were taken just before the end of the financial year.

- (a) An export duty was on March 9th placed on sugar and molasses at the following rates:—

					<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Crystal sugar	..	..	..	per ton	2	6
Muscovado sugar	..	..	..	” ”	1	8
Molasses	..	..	..	per 100 gals.	0	10

This duty brought in £472 during the 23 days of its operation.

- (b) From March 4th the excise duty on rum was increased from 3s. to 4s. per gallon; and the Customs duty on alcoholic liquors and tobacco was raised by 20 per cent.

This increase brought in £732 in excise and £316 in import duties in the four weeks of its operation. These figures must not be taken as an accurate guide to the amount to be anticipated as the regular result of these increased duties. Both these Acts are to continue in force till March 31st, 1916.

6. Only one head of revenue has shown any substantial increase, viz. that of the Water Works Department, by £701. Of this £100 is due to an increase of clients owing to the extension of the service to the higher levels. The remainder is due to increased consumption by meter, owing to the drought.

7. The principal decreases occurred under the following heads:—

	£
Customs	14,267
Port and Harbour dues	350
Excise	1,736
Licences	459
Fees and fines	621
Post Office	1,468
Reimbursements-in-aid	1,741
Interest	254
Special Receipts (if the £20,000 loan be deducted)	1,166

8. The causes of decrease were:—

Customs.—Principally the war.

Port and Harbour Dues.—Principally the war ; secondarily, reduction in the output of syrup and the consequent decrease in number of vessels loading in the Careenage.

Excise, Licences, Fees, and Fines.—General diminution in spending power consequent on general conditions and increase in cost of living.

Post Office.—Decrease in sale of stamps owing to falling off in correspondence, partly general and due to the war, but mainly with Panama, due to the reduction of Barbadian labour on the Canal.

Reimbursements-in-Aid.—Abnormal increase by loan of £1,500 in the previous year.

Interest.—Reduction of Treasury balance on deposit at interest.

Special Receipts.—Shrinkage by £880 in deposits by passengers under the Quarantine Act, which is balanced by a decrease on the expenditure side under refunds to passengers.

Expenditure.

9. The expenditure for 1914–15 exceeded that for the previous year by £14,619. If the gift of £20,000 to the Imperial Government be excluded this excess is converted into a decrease of £5,381. And if the total expenditure directly due to the war, set out in paragraph 13, be further deducted, the expenditure for 1914–15 will be found to have been reduced below that for the previous year by £9,177.

10. The principal heads under which increases occurred were:—

	Increase. £
The Governor (at disposal of, for service of Colony)	1,414
Colonial Secretary	163
Police	910
Pensions	1,014
Miscellaneous Services	17,350
War Expenditure	1,543

The principal decreases were :—

	£
Customs	4,377
Education	949
Water Works Department	1,041
Debt Charges	557
Public Works (Extraordinary)	851

11. The chief causes of the increases were :—

The Governor.—At the commencement of the war the money required for war expenditure was voted, to the amount of £1,600, as miscellaneous at the disposal of the Governor for the service of the Colony.

Police.—An amendment of the system of good conduct badges, entailing increase of this head by £348; the increased cost of clothing and forage due to the war, £244; and purchase of surplus stock, £194, recoverable on issue.

Pensions.—Automatic increase as public officers come under Part 2 of the Pension Act.

Miscellaneous Services.—The principal items of increase were :—

	£
Increase in amount of telegrams (due to war)	85
Installation and running of wharf lighting ..	200
Cost of exchange	48
Defensive measure for denial of supplies to enemy	543
Grants to families of two deceased police sergeants	227
Grant to provision contractor to compensate for war rise in prices	51
Donation to London School of Tropical Medicine	100
War gift to the Imperial Government ..	20,000

To set against the above there are items of extraordinary expenditure in 1913-14 which did not recur; and a reduction of £851 in refunds to passengers under the Quarantine Act. This is the corollary of the shrinkage in special receipts mentioned in paragraph 8.

12. The chief causes of the decreases were :—

Customs.—Decrease in refunds for drawbacks, consequent on decreased imports.

Education.—Decreased expenditure on repairs to schools.

Charges of Debt.—The instalment of £1,000 for the Public Works Loan sinking fund was withheld in accordance with the Act. Against this must be set increase of interest due to increased borrowing.

Public Works Extraordinary.—Expenditure on purchase of workshop in 1913-14, not recurring.

13. The total expenditure directly due to the war has been :—

	£
Gift to the Imperial Government	20,000
Money placed at the disposal of the Governor	1,600
War expenditure voted under scheduled heads	1,543
Additional defensive measure for denial of supplies to enemy	543
Volunteers, uniform for increased establishment	110
	<hr/>
	£23,796
	<hr/>

The principal objects to which the second and third items above were devoted were :—Temporary increase of police force by employment of island constables; pay and rations to volunteers when on guard and piquet; prisoners of war; censorship; erection of wireless station; and pay of volunteer wireless operators.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

14. The excess of assets over liabilities, which at the close of the previous financial year stood at £44,121, fell to £29,841 on March 31st, 1915.

PUBLIC DEBT.

15. The public debt has been increased during the year under report, from £436,900 to £447,900, the causes of increase being a loan of £9,000 for the purchase of the Savannah and military buildings and one of £2,000 for the extension of the water works to the higher levels of the island. To the amount above given, £447,900, will be added the £20,000 borrowed temporarily from the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank for the War gift to the mother country, as soon as the necessary legislative provision for this step has been effected.

The sinking fund increased during the year from £113,591 to £122,264.

PAROCHIAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

16. The comparison of the total revenue and expenditure of the eleven parishes of the island for this and the previous financial year discloses a decrease of £327 in revenue and a decrease of £10 in expenditure; the revenue and expenditure in 1913-14 amounting respectively to £67,737 and £66,097.

The amount expended on poor relief was £22,305. The increase of £1,115 over the figure for the previous financial year was necessitated by the drought.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

TRADE.

17. In 1914 the value of imports amounted to £1,300,073 as compared with £1,353,059 in 1913. The value of exports amounted to £915,099, the value of those in 1913 being £856,618.

The decrease in imports is due to the War and to the general conditions set forth in paragraph 4. The increase in exports is due to the improvement of the 1914 crop over the abnormally low crop of 1913 and also to the fact that considerable stocks of the 1913 crop were held over owing to low prices and not exported until 1914.

IMPORTS.

18. The following comparative table for the past two years show the countries from which imports chiefly came:—

	1914	1913
	£	£
United Kingdom	495,096	518,611
Canada	174,785	192,495
Newfoundland	32,026	37,055
British West Indies and British Guiana	118,827	113,013
India	35,076	29,247
<i>Foreign Countries—</i>		
United States	346,185	381,259
Argentine Republic	25,366	23,444
Foreign West Indies and Guiana	21,187	11,629
France	3,037	3,838
Germany	3,806	9,173
Holland	29,743	13,261

Of the increase by £9,558 from foreign West Indies and Guiana £8,972 is caused by increase of imports from the Dutch West Indies. This is due to increased imports thence of raw manures. The large increase in the import of raw manures was probably due to anticipated shortage in potassic manures caused by the embargo on potassic salts.

Of the increase of imports from Holland, £7,513 is due to import of chemical manure thence, on the closing of other sources of supply.

19. The following table gives the percentage of imports from the principal countries of origin for the past two years:—

	1914.	1913.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	38	38
Canada	13	14
United States	26	28

20. The net loss to the revenue attributable to the operation of the preferential tariff was £360 during 1914. The burden on the consumer, due to increased duties on articles from foreign sources, is estimated to have been inappreciable as the loss to the revenue. The benefit accruing from the preference system to the sugar industry, the staple and almost sole industry of the Colony, is believed to be of distinct and substantial value.

21. The following table gives the value of the principal imports from Canada for the past two years:—

(a) Articles showing an increase:

	1914	1913
	£	£
Motor cars and parts.. .. .	1,889	410
Oilmeal and oilcake	2,866	270
Fish, dried, salted and smoked	19,638	14,994
Flour of wheat and rye	48,110	42,112
Oats	19,708	14,835
Hay	2,427	965
Pork, salted	1,700	806

(b) Articles showing a decrease:

	1914	1913
	£	£
Cheese	2,078	2,395
Pickled fish (all kinds)	2,353	2,603
Sulphate of ammonia	30,269	46,752
Manures, unenumerated	11	1,967
Wood and timber	22,039	38,126
Shingles	11,615	14,473

The decrease in import of sulphate of ammonia is apparently attributable to the War; in unenumerated manures, wood and timber, and shingles to a decrease of total imports under these heads.

EXPORTS.

22. The following table gives a comparison of the value of exports the produce and manufacture of the Colony with the value of exports the produce and manufacture of British and foreign countries.

	1914.	1913.
	£	£
Produce, &c., of the Colony.. .. .	661,065	527,606
Produce, &c., of other Countries	254,034	329,012

23. The following table gives a comparison of the value of principal exports the produce and manufacture of the Colony with that for the previous year :—

	1914.	1913
	£	£
Bread and Crackers	6,800	7,018
Cotton-seed meal	1,625	2,293
Cotton, raw	13,473	23,460
Preserved tamarinds	2,148	770
Hides and Skins	6,334	4,922
Oleomargarine	2,251	3,310
Sugar, crystals	158,372	50,967
„ muscovado	94,688	39,704
Molasses, choice	55,332	37,480
„ fancy	306,076	339,130
„ vacuum pan	1,158	—

24. The following table compares the molasses and sugar shipments in quantity as well as in value :—

	1914.	1913.
Molasses, choice—		
Gallons	1,897,108	946,880
Value	£ 55,332	37,480
Molasses, fancy—		
Gallons	9,182,289	8,139,120
Value	£ 306,076	339,130
Molasses, vacuum pan—		
Gallons	138,957	—
Value	£ 1,158	—
Sugar, crystals—		
Tons	17,568	4,977
Value	£ 158,372	50,967
Sugar, muscovado—		
Tons	11,836	4,963
Value	£ 94,688	39,704

25. The following table gives the comparison of the average prices for the two years :—

	1914.	1913.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Molasses, choice—per gallon	0 0 7	0 0 9½
„ fancy „	0 0 8	0 0 10
„ vacuum pan „	0 0 2	—
Sugar, crystals, dark—per ton	9 0 0	10 0 0
„ „ white „	12 2 8	—
„ „ yellow „	11 0 0	12 0 0
„ muscovado „	8 0 0	8 0 0

It will be seen that the Colony suffered from a fall in the price of every sugar product except muscovado sugar.

26. The following table gives the comparison in quantity and value for cotton exported during the two years :—

		1914.	1913.
Cotton, raw	lbs.	220,981	433,099
Value	£	13,473	23,460
Cotton-seed meal	lbs.	970,976	1,310,016
Value	£	1,625	2,293

The average price of raw cotton rose from 1s. 1·0d. in 1913 to 1s. 2·6d. in 1914, but this rise was insufficient to compensate for a decrease by nearly one-half in the quantity exported.

27. The following table gives the destination of the principal products exported for the past two years :—

		1914.	1913.
	£	£	
United Kingdom	42,111	55,170	
Canada	46,881	312,053	
Newfoundland	37,436	45,964	
United States	74,481	69,200	

28. The destination of the bulk of the sugar has been :—

		1914.	1913.
	£	£	
United Kingdom	20,867	21,087	
Canada	202,168	53,212	
British West Indies	6,200	6,152	
Holland	4,720	3,968	
United States	12,080	Nil	

And of the molasses :—

		1914.	1913.
	£	£	
United Kingdom	5,457	7,574	
Canada	262,320	258,568	
Newfoundland	36,772	45,830	
United States	56,769	62,643	

29. The transit export trade shows a decrease of £74,978 below that for 1913.

SHIPPING.

30. The number of steamers entered at the port of Bridgetown in 1914 was 646, as compared with 709 in 1913. Their tonnage was 1,610,020, as compared with 1,753,356 in 1913. The number of sailing vessels entered was 701, as compared with 667 in the preceding year, their tonnage being 157,222, as compared with 141,141.

31. Of the ships entered in 1914, 986 were British, with tonnage amounting to 1,367,730, as compared with 1,063, with tonnage amounting to 1,489,371, in 1913. The foreign ships entered amounted to 361 in 1914, with tonnage of 399,512, as compared with 313, with tonnage of 405,126, in 1913.

32. In 1913 the number of steamers coaled was 265 and the amount of coal taken was 73,784 tons. In 1914 only 198 steamers were coaled, 48,598 tons of coal being taken.

33. In 1914 there were 5 tourist ships, which brought 1,686 tourists for a day's visit to the island. The corresponding figures for 1913 were 5 ships and 4,355 tourists.

34. The number of passengers arriving in this island, exclusive of those in transit, was 11,898 in 1914 as compared with 14,435 in 1913.

35. The number of natives of Barbados returning from Panama, with the money declared as brought with them, was 1,759, with £16,449, in 1914, as compared with 1,910, with £19,342, in 1913.

AGRICULTURE.

36. The export of sugar has been set out under its various headings in paragraph 24. The following table gives a comprehensive comparison, in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto), of the exports for the past five years :—

					Tons.
1910	..	..	..	..	52,300
1911	..	..	..	..	47,610
1912	..	..	..	..	44,817
1913	..	..	..	..	31,329
1914	..	..	..	..	53,568

37. The increase by 22,239 tons in 1914 represents the increase in the amount exported during the year and not the increase in the crop itself. As was stated in paragraph 35 of the Report for 1913-14, considerable stocks of the 1913 crop were held over, owing to low prices, beyond the close of 1913. Such stocks therefore went to swell to some extent the export returns for 1914. But the actual crop of 1913 was a very short one, owing to the exceptionally low rainfall of 1912, 41.49 inches, the lowest on record for 65 years; whereas the rainfall for 1913, 56.84 inches, raised the 1914 crop to a more nearly average figure.

38. The growth of the crop to be reaped in 1915 was injured in its early stages by the serious drought which existed to the end of August, 1914. Prospects improved considerably owing to seasonable rains in September; October and November were comparatively dry; December and January gave good rains, but the value of these was largely negatived by unseasonable rains at the reaping season. The 1915 crop thus suffered seriously from generally adverse weather conditions.

39. The seedling cane B 6450, to the drought-resisting qualities of which attention was drawn in the reports for 1912-13 and 1913-14, gives increasingly satisfactory results compared with other varieties. The Barbados Department of Agriculture reports that for the 1914 crop the average yield of this variety exceeded that of the White Transparent, the standard cane, by 6·5 tons of canes, or well over half a ton of dark crystal sugar, per acre. The areas planted with B 6450 continue to increase, but the evidence afforded by the 1914 crop convinces the Superintendent of Agriculture that the monetary gain to the planters had the whole 30,000 acres reaped been under this variety would have been not less than £160,000.

40. Certain newer seedlings give even better promise than B 6450, notably B(a) 6032, which has now been distributed to estates for field trials.

41. The Blue Book and the comparative table in paragraph 26 above show the cotton exported during the calendar year. But the reaping and shipping season for a cotton crop extends from October to the following September. The following table gives the comparison by crops and not by calendar years :—

				Crop of 1913-14.	Crop of 1912-13.
Acres	..	..	..	2,985	3,970
Quantity, lbs.	..	..	..	285,697	424,392
Value	£	..	..	16,820	23,222

42. The continued reduction of area under cotton is due, as has been pointed out in the reports for the last two years, to the discouragement caused to planters by the susceptibility of cotton to disease and insect pests. The efforts of the local Department of Agriculture to obtain, by selection and hybridisation, varieties capable of resisting insect pests and fungoid diseases and of giving a yield satisfactory in both quantity and quality are being continued with some success. But it is very probable that the present high price of sugar will cause a still further reduction of the area under cotton.

43. The rise in freight rates due to the war has caused the discontinuance of the shipments of bananas, mangoes, potatoes and yams to England ; and the efforts to establish a trade with the United Kingdom in these commodities have perforce been suspended.

44. The experimental export of melons to New York has been brought to an end, owing to the difficulty of obtaining shipping facilities during the season of remunerative prices.

INDUSTRIES.

45. There was an increase of 44,049 gallons in the quantity of rum manufactured.

46. The receipts of the Barbados Light Railway Company have risen again to the figure for 1912-13 in spite of the fact that the payment of the Government subsidy was suspended for two months and nineteen days, involving a reduction of £439, pending completion of certain necessary repairs.

The receipts in 1913-14 were £8,890; in 1912-13 they were £7,984.

LEGISLATION.

47. During the year 28 Acts were passed by the Legislature. Of these the more important are :—

No. 10. An Act to authorise the prohibition of the exportation of foodstuffs from this island.

No. 11. An Act to amend the Trade Act, 1910, and the Exportation of Foodstuffs Act, 1914.

No. 12. An Act to authorise the Governor-in-Executive Committee to fix maximum prices for certain commodities.

No. 15. An Act to amend the Regulation of Prices Act, 1914.

These Acts were passed in consequence of the situation created by the existence of the state of war between certain nations in Europe, which brought about unsettled conditions in the markets of the world.

No. 21. An Act to prohibit trading with the enemy.

This Act is a transcript of the Imperial Act, with necessary alterations of names of officers and other modifications to suit local conditions.

EDUCATION.

48. The total expenditure under this head was £22,009, a decrease by £949 on that for the previous year, due principally to less expenditure on repairs.

49. Codrington college, founded in 1745, opened as a college in 1830 and affiliated to Durham University, had 24 scholars on the roll at the close of 1914, as compared with 20 at the close of the previous year. The Legislature votes four island scholarships worth £40 each and tenable for two years at the College.

50. The training institute for elementary school teachers, started privately by the Rev. A. H. Anstey, Principal of Codrington College, and assisted by a grant of £300 from the Education Board, had twelve teachers under training throughout 1914. Ten teachers had completed the course by the end of the year and are now employed by the Board, two as head teachers. The results of the experiment so far have been quite satisfactory.

51. The following table shows the statistics relating to the larger schools, which receive legislative grants :—

	No. of pupils on rolls.
Boys (First Grade)—	
Harrison College	151
The Lodge School	71
Boys (Second Grade)—	
The Combermere School	181
Girls (First Grade)—	
Queen's College	93

52. The number of primary schools was 153, with 25,162 children on the rolls and an average attendance of 14,409.

53. The total Government grant for primary education is £14,200, the balance of which over and above the grant for salaries is expended on books, furniture, etc. There is also a parochial grant of £1,025 contributed in various sums by the vestries of the island.

54. The four ragged schools show 311 scholars on the rolls.

55. Provision exists for an annual scholarship, called the Barbados scholarship, open to both girls and boys, of the value of £175 a year, tenable for four years during membership at one of the Universities of Europe or Canada or at any agricultural or technical college in Europe or America which may be approved by the Education Board.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

56. The Barbados General Hospital, situated in Bridgetown, is maintained by a legislative grant, but is not, strictly speaking, a Government institution and is not under Government control. It is governed by a Court of eighteen Directors, of whom sixteen—selected pursuant to statute—must be either Government officers, sitting ex-officio, or members of the Legislature, while the remaining two are life members.

57. The following table gives the principal statistics of the Hospital for the past two years :—

		Daily Average of patients.	Admissions.	Deaths.	Outpatients.
1914	..	147	2,980	271	27,738
1913	..	177	3,356	247	26,913

The Government grant for the year was £7,850.

58. The new buildings formally opened on April 28th, 1913, by Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, were taken into use early in 1914.

59. At the Lazaretto there were 14 admissions, 2 discharges, and 11 deaths, leaving 121 inmates at the end of the year. An Act providing for the compulsory segregation of any supposed leper found in a public place, if proved to be such, with certain concessions for isolation in private under regulation, was passed by the Legislature in December, 1914.

60. At the lunatic asylum the daily average number of patients increased from 399 in 1913 to 424 in 1914. The admissions numbered 114, the discharges 51, and the deaths 91.

61. At Glendairy Prison the daily average number of prisoners rose from 216 in 1913 to 257 in 1914, and the number of persons committed to penal imprisonment from 1,873 to 2,192.

62. The number at the Government Industrial School for boys rose from 156 at the close of 1913 to 161 on December 31st, 1914, with a daily average of 159.

63. The number at the Government Industrial School for girls rose from 42 at the end of 1913 to 57 at the end of 1914, with a daily average of 47.

64. The expenditure on the Boys' School, including cultivation of the estates, amounted to £2,931, on the Girls' School to £772. The receipts from the estates cultivated amounted to £1,518. The nett cost of these institutions amounted, therefore, to £2,185, a decrease by £456 on the nett cost for 1913. The cost of maintenance per boy was £5 15s. 1d., and per girl £6 8s. 10½d.

65. The deposits in the Savings Bank during 1914-15 amounted to £193,646 and the withdrawals to £215,219. The interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent.

66. In spite of decreases, probably due to the reduction in prosperity resulting from the adverse circumstances detailed in paragraph 4, the Savings Bank and Friendly Societies are good evidence of the prevalence of thrift.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

67. The comparison with the previous year is :—

	1914.	1913.
Summary convictions ..	10,351	11,963
Convictions in superior courts	75	65

68. The following table shows the percentage of convictions to population (estimated for 1914 to be 176,397) :—

1911	..	..	..	..	6·49
1912	..	..	..	..	6·76
1913	..	..	..	..	6·93
1914	..	..	..	..	5·91

69. The number of convictions for prædial larceny, which fell from 1,055 in 1912 to 860 in 1913, rose again to 1,039 in 1914.

70. The number of cane fires showed a serious increase during the year. There were 123 in 1912, 155 in 1913, and 270 in 1914. A Commission appointed to consider this serious evil reported thereon at the close of the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

71. The population of the Colony on December 31st, 1914, was estimated to be:—74,476 males, 101,921 females; total 176,397; an estimated increase by 3,038 on the total for December 31st, 1913. These figures are based on those of the census of 1911, with corrections for births, burials, immigration, and emigration.

72. The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages for the past two years:—

	1914.	1913.
Births	6,549	5,511
Birth rate per 1,000	37·4	31·9
Burials	6,380	3,674
Death rate per 1,000	36·5	21·3
Marriages	582	591

73. Illegitimate births numbered 4,092, or 62·4 per cent. of total births.

74. The burials of children under a year old numbered 2,641, giving a rate of 403 per 1,000 births, as against 213 per 1,000 in 1913 and 416 per 1,000 in 1912.

GENERAL REMARKS.

75. The consideration by the Legislature of steps for the establishment of a local industry in oil producing and refining has been temporarily suspended owing to the War.

76. The principal effects of the War felt by Barbados during 1914 were the rise in price in imported goods, a decrease in the volume of shipping, a serious decrease in the coaling trade, and a cessation of the tourist trade. There was no need to take legislative action to safeguard the commercial financial position. As there is no foreign colony in the island no alien difficulties arose.

77. Enemy ships did not attack the island. Whilst there were any at large the approved organization for defence was kept in force and sundry false alarms showed the local forces to be fully prepared for any attack. Money was voted by the Legislature for an additional defensive measure directed towards preventing an enemy ship from obtaining the particular commodity which would be most likely to tempt an attack. The measure taken has been examined by officers of His Majesty's ships and approved by them as efficient for the purpose aimed at and the most satisfactory that could have been adopted.

78. But undoubtedly the most valuable addition to the defensive organization has been the erection by certain members of the Volunteer Force of a very efficient wireless station for military purposes, which has placed the Colony in permanent wireless communication with Trinidad, and has therefore relieved it from the dangerous position of sole reliance on the submarine cable for reporting an attack or appealing for assistance. The story of the installation is of sufficient interest to justify giving it at some length.

79. Prior to the outbreak of war a "wireless club" existed in Barbados, the youthful members of which learnt and practised by talking to each other on little home-made installations erected on bamboo poles or palm trees. Amongst the members were certain volunteers. On the outbreak of war these Volunteers offered to erect something for the service of the Colony if a little financial help could be given for the purchase of material. Ten pounds was subscribed privately by the Governor and the members of the Legislative Council; permission was given, and within five days of the declaration of war an "umbrella" installation, capable of calling up to 15 miles, was at work, operated night and day by an unpaid volunteer staff.

80. A week later a 10-inch induction coil was borrowed from the Hospital. This increased the transmitting range to 40 miles. At the beginning of September a generous gift of part-worn material by a steamer of the Booth Line (to which Company the gratitude of the Colony is due) increased the transmitting range to 60 miles. In the middle of September the utilization of power from the Electric Supply Corporation, together with certain home-made improvements to the apparatus, increased the range to 150 miles. In the middle of October the loan (on deposit) of a lattice mast by the Electric Supply Corporation (whose manager is a member of the Volunteer Force) enabled the "umbrella" installation to be converted into an "inverted L" aerial, and increased the transmitting range to about 220 miles. The island was thus placed in wireless touch with Trinidad and with any British warship which might happen to be within that radius. The greatest credit is due to the keen young Volunteers who achieved this success at a cost to the Colony of under £60, and who until October 1st gave their services night and day to the station without remuneration.

81. Success being now demonstrated, specific votes were obtained from the Legislature for the purchase of a proper transmitting apparatus, and the little "toy" plant evolved out of nothing in August became by the end of the year an efficient and thoroughly dependable two-kilowatt installation, maintained for defence purposes only. There existed obstacles to its conversion into a commercial station, but every facility compatible with military considerations was given to merchants and shipping agents for its use gratis.

J. A. BURDON,

Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
14th October, 1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
836	St. Lucia	1913-1914
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Wei-hai-wei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

LIBRARY
FEB 15 1916

No. 872.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 817.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
January, 1916.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE

By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd. 7622-63]. Price 1d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I. FINANCIAL	4
II. TRADE AND INDUSTRIES	6
III. LEGISLATION	8
IV. EDUCATION	8
V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	9
VI. VITAL STATISTICS	
VII. POSTAL SERVICE, &c.	10
VIII. FALKLAND ISLAND VOLUNTEERS	11
IX. PUBLIC WORKS.. .. .	11
X. CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT	11
XI. GENERAL	11
MAP	13

No. 872.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1913, see No. 817).

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Stanley,
4th October, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of the Falkland Islands for the year 1914, together with the report thereon by Mr. C. F. Condell, Colonial Secretary.

2. The Report indicates the continued progress of the Colony.

3. The exports of the two principal industries, sheep farming and whaling, valued at £191,013 and £1,301,547 respectively, show a satisfactory increase compared with £176,878 and £951,245, the annual average for the previous three years.

4. The total trade of the Colony during recent years has grown to a remarkable extent. Ten years ago the total trade for the year was valued at £225,600 compared with £194,800 for the year 1895, and with £146,100 thirty years ago. Last year's trade, valued at £1,738,843, stands out in bold contrast.

I have, &c.,

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

DOUGLAS YOUNG,
Governor.

Enclosure.

The Office of the Colonial Secretary,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands,

SIR, 30th September, 1915.

I have the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1914, and the accompanying Report thereon.

2. Even in normal times communication with the outlying dependency of South Georgia is difficult and irregular; this year, on account of the War and consequent disorganization of the usual services, some reports sent from South Georgia in April only reached Stanley in September. This alone would largely account for the late appearance of the Blue Book, while the fact that since the 1st January, 1915, there has been a new Governor, a new Colonial Secretary, and a change in the entire clerical staff of the Colonial Secretary's Office, has been a further cause of delay.

I have, &c.,

To His Excellency,
W. Douglas Young, C.M.G.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

C. F. CONDELL,
Colonial Secretary.

(C226.) Wt.36076/850. 1125 & 90. 1.16. B.&F.Ltd. Gp.11/2.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1914.

I.—FINANCIAL.

GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The ordinary revenue for the year ended 31st December, 1914, amounted to £33,760, exceeding that for the year ended 31st December, 1913, by £1,475.

2. The ordinary expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1914, amounted to £31,543, and was £2,216 less than the ordinary revenue for the same period, and exceeded the ordinary expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1913, by £10,895.

The only striking difference between the totals shown for the years 1913 and 1914 on the expenditure side is an increase of £9,624 under "Miscellaneous." This is accounted for by the fact that on the outbreak of war, there being no provision on the estimates for the unusual military expenditure, all charges incidental to the maintenance of the volunteer force were debited to this vote.

3. The average ordinary revenue during the last five years exceeded the average ordinary expenditure by £4,839, representing a total surplus during that period of £24,179.

4. The receipts in respect of import duties on wine, malt, spirits, and tobacco amounted to £5,557, being £642 less than in 1913, and £952 in excess of the average receipts for the five years 1910–14.

5. There were no important changes in taxation during 1914.

6. At the closing of accounts on the 31st December, 1914, the assets and liabilities of the Colony were as follows :—

				£
Assets	..	..	..	208,184
Liabilities	..	..	..	94,099
Excess of assets				£114,083

The following statement shows the surplus of assets at the closing of accounts for the last two years :—

Account.		1913.	1914.
		£	£
Surplus revenue	.. ..	4,701	2,961
Land sales fund	.. ..	100,753	109,118
Livestock fund	.. ..	1,744	2,004
Totals	.. ..	£107,198	£114,083

7. The following statement shows the amount invested by the various funds in the purchase of stocks at the closing of the accounts, for the last two years (cost price) :—

Fund.	1913.	1914.
	£	£
Land sales	99,992	109,125
Savings bank	69,016	69,016
Intestate estates .. ..	....	....
Currency note	3,750	3,750
Currency depreciation ..	388	388
Westminster Bank .. ..	....	19,500
Surplus account	4,500	....
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	£177,646	£201,779
	<hr/>	<hr/>

8. Owing to the unsettled state of the markets it was found impossible to estimate the probable market value of the stock held by the various funds on the 31st December, 1914.

CURRENCY.

9. British gold, silver, and bronze are current. There is, however, little gold in circulation. A Government paper currency was established under an Order of Queen Victoria in Council dated the 7th March, 1899. Details of the conditions under which notes are issued will be found in the Report on the Blue Book for the year 1910.

The number and value of notes circulating in 1914 were 3,399 and £6,456 19s., as compared with 5,507 and £7,500 in 1913.

The marked decrease in the number and value of notes in circulation at the end of 1914 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1913 is explained by the fact that in November, in anticipation of a raid by enemy cruisers, a large number of currency notes were destroyed ; at the same time the gold reserve in the hands of the Commissioners of Currency was transferred to London and placed on deposit with the London and Westminster Bank, Limited.

The profit and loss account of the Commissioners of Currency for the year 1914 showed a net profit of £112, which sum has been carried to the general revenue of the Colony.

MAY. 7 1915

II.—TRADE AND INDUSTRIES.

10. The value of the imports during 1914 was £233,379, and that of the exports £1,505,464, as against £239,333 and £1,460,219, respectively, in 1913.

The following figures give the value of the imports during the year 1914, arranged according to the countries of origin :—

Country.	1914.
	£
United Kingdom	163,443
British Colonies	436
Argentina	26,114
Norway	23,955
Germany	4,568
Uruguay	3,147
Chile	2,894
Other	8,822
Total	<u>£233,379</u>

The following figures give the value of the exports during the year 1914 :—

Country.	1914.
	£
United Kingdom	571,110
British Colonies	5,790
Norway	439,043
Germany	134,860
Argentina	71,132
Holland	84,890
Spain	53,085
Chile	41,487
Portugal	30,292
Uruguay	73,671
Other	104
Total	<u>£1,505,464</u>

WHALE FISHERIES.

11. The following table gives the results of the whaling operations in the waters of the Colony and Dependencies during the season 1913-14. It is impossible to give the exact figures in respect of any one year owing to the fact that the whaling season lasts from the 1st October to the 30th September.

Locality.	Number caught.	WHALE OIL.		BONE.		GUANO.		BONE MEAL		Total
		Barrels.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Bags.	Value.	Bags.	Value.	
			£		£		£		£	£
Falkland Islands	300 (approx.)	4,505	13,515	80	—	3,363	1,681	—	—	15,196
S. Shetlands & Graham's Land	5,259	222,940	714,021	111	275	10,148	6,187	—	—	720,474
S. Orkneys	621	21,750	76,120	20	30	—	—	—	—	76,150
S. Georgia	3,349	166,578	445,063	213	4,066	81,324	40,028	1,327	570	489,727
Totals..	9,429	415,783	1,248,719	424	4,371	94,835	47,887	1,327	570	1,301,548

PASTORAL.

12. The amount standing to the credit of the stock fund on the 31st December, 1914, was £2,004, as compared with a total of £1,744 on the 31st December, 1913. The land tax produced £807; the expenditure was £547.

The number of sheep in the Colony for the year 1914 was 701,268.

Only one canning factory was working during the greater part of the year; 15,787 sheep were canned during the season.

On account of the war many of the farmers were shorthanded; the lack of shepherds naturally resulted in a disappointing lambing season.

In July, owing to an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in southern Chile, a proclamation was issued forbidding the importation into the Colony of all varieties of livestock.

The Chief Inspector of Stock reports that ophthalmia among the live stock of the Colony is steadily on the decline and that the Colony may now be said to be practically free from the disease.

The price of wool realized by the Falkland Islands farmers in the London markets showed a marked rise, some consignments attaining a record price of 1s. 5d. a pound.

SHIPPING.

13. The number of sailing vessels entered in the Colony during 1914 was 11, with a total tonnage of 11,045, as against 18, with a tonnage of 19,021, in 1913. One British sailing vessel was entered.

The number of steam vessels entered was 119, with a tonnage of 241,784, showing a decrease of 22 in number and 32 in tonnage; of this number 66 were British vessels, with a tonnage of 189,893.

Port Stanley was visited by thirteen warships.

Shipping Casualties.

14. The New Zealand Shipping Company's s.s. "Waimate" arrived in Port Stanley on the 25th May with a large cargo of flax badly on fire, having experienced very heavy gales south of Cape Horn. The fires were successfully extinguished.

III.—LEGISLATION.

15. Nine Ordinances were passed in 1914, the following being of most general interest:—

No. 3, providing for the registration of medical practitioners midwives, and dentists.

No. 4, consolidating the cemetery legislation and making provision for the appointment of a burial board.

No. 6, regulating the sale and use of poisons.

No. 7, incorporating the cemetery burial board as a body corporate.

No. 9, making provision for the preservation of penguins.

IV.—EDUCATION.

16. There are two schools in Stanley—the Government School and one controlled by the Roman Catholic authorities. The Government School is undenominational and the teaching in both is purely secular. The school age is the same as in England.

The educational system of the Colony was considerably disorganized owing to the war. Apart from a small school at Darwin, maintained by the Falkland Islands Company, all teaching outside Stanley is done by itinerant teachers, two being employed on their "camp" by the Falkland Islands Company and five by the Government in different parts of the Colony. On the outbreak of war three of the Government itinerant schoolmasters joined the volunteer force and were recalled to Stanley. The Government School in Stanley was closed for a

considerable period during the latter part of the year, and for a period of six weeks all women and children left Stanley for various parts of the East and West Falklands. The numerical returns for the year are necessarily incomplete.

During the year a sum of £923 was expended under the education vote, and £114 was received as fees at the Government School.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

17. The King Edward VII. Memorial Hospital, the erection and furnishing of which was practically completed by September, was placed at the disposal of Government by the Committee responsible for its building, in November. Both this institution and the Victoria Cottage Home were then taken over by the naval authorities and managed by them with the assistance of the civil staff, and proved of the utmost value in accommodating the wounded after the naval action off the Colony on the 8th December.

THE GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK.

18. During the twelve months ended the 30th September, 1914, 85 accounts were opened and 37 closed, leaving a total number of 541 depositors, with balances amounting to £79,434; this gives an average of almost £35 a head of the population of the Colony (2272). The income earned by the Bank during this period was £2,317, and the expenses incurred (payment of interest and audit charges) amounted to £1,649, leaving a profit of £668.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS.

19. In 1914 the total recorded number of births was 45, of deaths 32, and of marriages 21. No returns, however, are available from West Falkland.

The birth-rate per thousand during 1914 was 16·63, and the death-rate 9·69. Eight men from His Majesty's ships who were killed, or died from wounds on active service, are not included in the above totals. The estimated population of the Colony (inclusive of South Georgia) on the 31st December, 1914, amounted to 3,223, of which 2,328 were males and 895 females.

HEALTH.

20. The general health of the Colony continues to be good. The following is an extract from the report of the Colonial Surgeon for the year 1914 :—

“ Stanley was visited, as in 1913, in the months of May and June, by an epidemic of influenza. Practically every house in the settlement was affected. . . . There was also an epidemic of chicken-pox in the East Camp and a few isolated cases of measles in Stanley, which fortunately did not spread. No deaths resulted from either of these epidemics. The Falkland Islands Volunteers were called out for active service on the outbreak of war. The health of the corps, in spite of the difficulty of obtaining suitable accommodation for the men, and the severe weather to which they were exposed in the performance of their duty, was excellent.”

21. The school dental clinic, started in 1913, was carried on during 1914, and the teeth of 224 children were treated, as against 142 in the previous year.

VII.—POSTAL SERVICE.

22. The revenue of the Post Office during 1914 was £3,499, being £807 in excess of the revenue collected in 1913. The expenditure, including a subsidy of £2,500 for the conveyance of mails beyond the Colony, was £3,763, or £13 less than the expenditure incurred in 1913.

The Pacific Steam Navigation Company's vessels at the beginning of the year called at Port Stanley on their outward voyage to Callao, and on their return voyage to Liverpool. With the opening of the Panama Canal certain alterations in the Company's schedule enabled a fortnightly service of letters to be delivered at Port Stanley, the homeward bound vessels picking up letters from England taken to Punta Arenas, Chile, by the intermediate outward mailboat. The outbreak of the war, however, intervened to prevent the continuation of this system, and since the middle of August the mail service has been naturally curtailed and irregular.

The Falkland Islands are within the Postal Union as regards rates of postage.

Money orders to the value of £7,935 were issued on the United Kingdom, and £943 on other places.

The total number of letters and other postal packages handled during the year is estimated to be 161,556.

Mails between Europe and South Georgia are transmitted via Buenos Aires ; the mailboat between Buenos Aires and South Georgia occupies about eight days in transit, the distance being about 1,500 miles.

VIII.—FALKLAND ISLANDS VOLUNTEERS.

23. On the outbreak of war the Falkland Islands Volunteers were called out on active service under the command of Major (honorary) H.M.S. Turner. The numerical strength of the force was largely increased during the remaining five months of the year. Eight members of the force were accidentally drowned in the performance of military duty on the 1st December.

IX.—PUBLIC WORKS.

26. Naturally the outbreak of the war and the mobilization of the Falkland Islands Volunteers very seriously handicapped the public works programme for the year, and several works of importance have had to be abandoned until the cessation of hostilities. Nevertheless, some considerable progress had by August been made on the Stanley Town Hall, and further progress was made later.

X.—CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

27. His Excellency W. L. Allardyce, C.M.G., Governor, returned from leave on the 30th April. During his absence (since August, 1913) the Colonial Secretary, Captain John Quayle Dickson, administered the government.

The Colonial Secretary, Captain Dickson, left the Colony on the 9th June.

In November the Governor, His Excellency W. L. Allardyce, C.M.G., was appointed to the Governorship of the Bahamas Islands, but did not leave the Colony during 1914, and W. Douglas Young, Esq., C.M.G., Administrator of St. Lucia, British West Indies, was in December appointed to the Governorship of the Falkland Islands. Mr. Young did not arrive in the Colony during 1914.

XI.—GENERAL.

28. In response to an appeal from the Governor a sum of nearly £5,000 was raised in aid of the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund.

A sum of over £300 was also sent to the Crown Agents to be added to the Belgian Relief Fund.

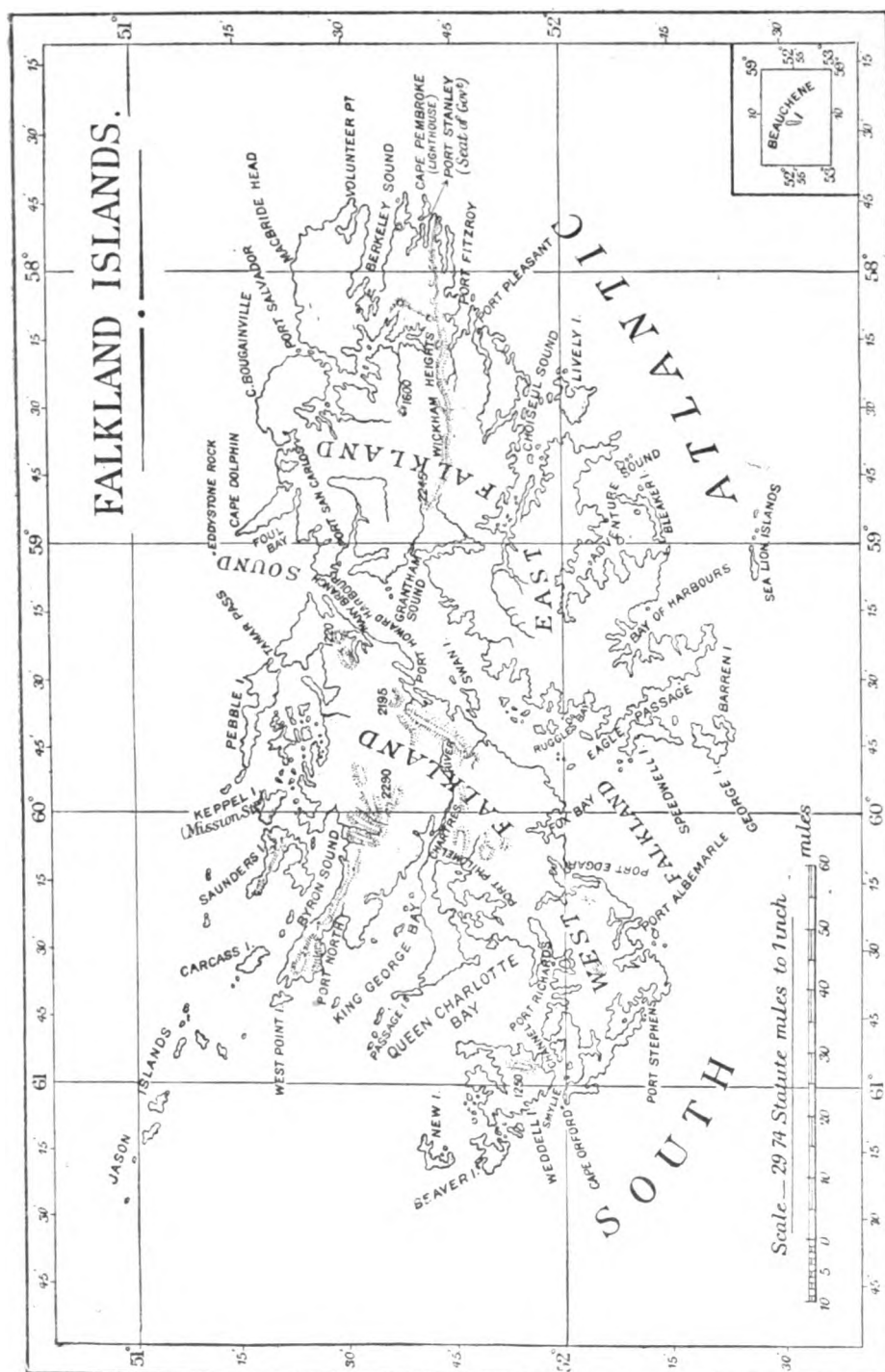
The war made 1914 the most momentous year in the history of this usually quiet Colony. As stated in a previous section the Volunteer Force was called out on active service on the outbreak of war in August, and in spite of the difficulties of communication with the outlying

districts the number of men under arms was soon very considerable. After the departure of H.M.S. "Good Hope" and "Monmouth" from the Falkland Islands and their subsequent loss in the engagement off Coronel in November, the Colony passed through a period of great anxiety which was only ended by the brilliant victory of the 8th December, when the British squadron under Vice-Admiral Sir Doveton Sturdee destroyed the German squadron off Port Stanley, where it appeared with the evident intention of making a descent on these islands. The women and children were, on the advice of the Governor, sent in October to various parts of the East and West Falklands.

Although the Colony, on account of its small population, has not been able to do much towards assisting the Empire, its goodwill was shown by its first contribution towards the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund, amounting to over £1 per head of the total population. The colonists of the Falkland Islands are inspired with the utmost loyalty to the King and join with His Majesty's other subjects throughout the Empire in praying that the war which has been forced upon him may, by the courage of his naval and military forces, be brought to an early and successful termination.

C. F. CONDELL,

Colonial Secretary.



COLONIAL REPORTS, &c

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
837	Somaliland	1913-1914
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

L O N D O N :
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK, S.E.

1916.

No. 873.

U G A N D A .

REPORT FOR 1914—1915.

(For Report for 1913—14 see No. 831.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

January, 1916.



L O N D O N :
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE

By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or

E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;

or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, and other Foreign Countries of

T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd. 7622-64.] Price 2½d.

CONTENTS

	PAGES.
Section I. FINANCIAL	4
Section II. TRADE	5
Section III. AGRICULTURAL	6
Section IV. FORESTRY	11
Section V. LAND AND SURVEY	11
Section VI. COMMUNICATIONS	12
General	12
Railway and Marine	13
Wheeled Transport	14
Roads	15
Posts and Telegraphs	15
Section VII. VITAL STATISTICS, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND CLIMATE	16
Section VIII. JUDICIAL	18
Section IX. EDUCATION	19
Section X. NATIVE AFFAIRS	20
Section XI. GENERAL	22

SKETCH MAP.

No. 873.

UGANDA.

(For Report for 1913-1914 see No. 831.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Uganda,

27th October, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book of the Uganda Protectorate for the year 1914-15.

I have, etc.,

F. J. JACKSON,

Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for the Colonies,
etc., etc., etc.

MAY. 7 1919

I.—FINANCIAL.

GENERAL.

The revenue received by the Protectorate during the year 1914–15 totalled £282,830, an increase of £26,271 on the amount collected in 1913–14, and a decrease on the original estimate of £1,841.

2. Ordinary expenditure incurred during the year, exclusive of loan expenditure, amounted to £289,213, as opposed to an estimated expenditure of £322,218. The grant-in-aid from Imperial funds was £10,000.

LOAN EXPENDITURE.

3. In addition to the ordinary expenditure a sum of £51,431 was spent during the year on development works from loans granted by the Imperial Treasury. There are three such loans, one for £170,000, advanced in 1910–11 for the construction of the Busoga Railway, a second for £125,000, made in 1912–13, for improvement of communications in the Eastern Province and the construction of the Kampala-Port Bell Railway, and the Imperial Loan (1915), of £329,000, for improvement and extension of internal railway, steamer, telegraph, and road communications throughout the Protectorate, from which £5,160 was advanced during the year.

The total expenditure under the three loans up to the 31st March, 1915, was :—

	£
Busoga Railway	161,192
Kampala-Port Bell Railway	30,000
Eastern Province Communications ..	58,083
Imperial Loan (1915)	2,996

Interest at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is charged on the Busoga Railway Loan of £170,000, with a sinking fund of 1 per cent. A similar rate of interest is paid on the 1912–13 Loan, with a sinking fund of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., whilst 4 per cent. has been charged on advances, which amounted during 1914–15 to £5,160, on the Imperial Loan (1915).

GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK.

4. The value of deposits in the Government Savings Bank amounted to £4,792 and withdrawals to £5,071. The number of depositors was 408 as against 384 in the preceding year, and the amount standing to their credit at the close of the financial year was £6,331, as against £6,610 on March 31st, 1914. Of the 408 accounts which remained open at the end of the year, 283 are held by natives of the Protectorate.

II.—TRADE.

(a) GENERAL.

5. The volume of the Protectorate trade during the year amounted to £1,246,304, a decrease of £382,204 or 23·47 per cent. on the previous year's returns. Imports valued at £588,958 show a net decrease of £432,297, and exports £657,346, a net increase of £131,187.

(b) IMPORTS.

6. Comparing the imports of 1914-15 with those of the previous year, the principal decreases and increases in the value of articles imported for home consumption occurred under the following heads :—

Food, Drink, and Tobacco.

A decrease of 7·21 per cent. or £7,933.

Raw Materials.

A decrease of 10·35 per cent. or £3,687.

Manufactured or Partly Manufactured Articles.

A decrease of 38·24 per cent. or £254,337.

(c) EXPORTS.

7. The export trade for the year exceeded, for the first time, the value of the import trade exclusive of imports on behalf of the Protectorate Government. The value of exports of domestic produce showed a satisfactory increase of 2·24 per cent., or £11,494 on the figures for 1913-14, and amounted to £532,173 of the gross total of £657,346.

In comparison to the figures of the previous year the principal increases and decreases under the more important heads were :—

Food, Drink, and Tobacco.

An increase of 22·74 per cent. or £11,263.

Raw Materials.

An increase of 29 per cent., or £1,324. The value of exports in this class amounted to £461,294, cotton exports being responsible for £369,318 of the total. Five thousand three hundred and fifty-seven tons of lint cotton were exported during the year, an increase of 361 tons on figures for 1913-14. Unginned cotton showed a net decrease of £14,661, and exports of cotton seed an increase of 1,822 tons as compared with figures of the previous year. The value of cotton was much reduced on account of war, ginned cotton averaging $5\frac{1}{2}d.$ and unginned $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ at the port of shipment against $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ and $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ during

1913-14. The quantity of cotton exported from the Protectorate has risen in the last five years from 23,233 bales, valued at £165,413, to 153,806 bales, valued at £351,146. The percentage of ginned cotton exported from the Protectorate, as opposed to seed cotton, is increasing with the erection of ginneries in the cotton districts and trading centres of the country.

Manufactured Articles.

A decrease of 41·25 per cent. or £660.

(d) DIRECTION OF TRADE.

8. Imports from the United Kingdom, valued at £264,831, exceeded the total imports from foreign countries by 16·48 per cent., a decrease on figures for the previous year of 30·32 per cent. or £115,218. Imports from British possessions amounted to £359,162, a net decrease of £145,853, and from foreign countries £221,169, or a comparative decrease of £171,078 on figures for 1913-14.

(e) TRANSIT TRADE.

9. The transit trade shows a decrease of 49·66 per cent. or £40,274.

III.—AGRICULTURAL.

10. The agricultural development of the Protectorate falls under two heads: native-grown crops and planters' crops.

(a) NATIVE AND PLANTERS' CROPS.

11. The following are the most valuable native crops:—

Cotton.

Uganda cotton is the progeny of "American Upland" seed imported in 1910, out of which "Allen's long staple" and "Sunflower" were retained. It is the most important agricultural product of the Protectorate and overshadows in its economic value all other European or native grown crops. The area under cultivation, of which three-quarters lies in the Eastern Province, was estimated at 118,778 acres and the output approximated 45,000 bales of 400 lb., valued at the port of shipment at £351,146. Cotton sales were rendered negative for six months from August, 1914, until February, 1915, owing to the uncertain state of the local and European markets; areas planted with the crop fell into neglect, a number of cotton trees were uprooted, and the picked cotton destroyed in certain areas as native producers lost hope of disposing of their holdings. A decrease of £94,634 occurred in the comparative value of shipments as against figures for the previous year. The quality of the crop was good and its bulk brought clean to the buying centres. Requirements of foodstuffs and demands

for porters for local military operations will cause a decrease in next season's output in the Buganda Province, but arrangements are in hand for increased cultivation in the neighbourhood of the ginneries situated in the Eastern Province and indications are assured that the industry will extend as facilities for transport are increased and the working of ginneries confined to the producing areas of the Protectorate.

The handling of the crop presents continual difficulties in regard to transport and storage. Demands for portage are considerable at a season when natives should be occupied in planting food crops, and large quantities of cotton are exposed, detrimentally, to weather at buying centres and at the railway and steamboat termini. Efforts are, however, in hand to improve facilities for transport, and twenty ginneries are now established in the cotton-producing areas.

Over 9,000 tons of cotton seed, valued at £18,172, were exported from the Protectorate in the early part of the year. The total would have been considerably greater had not increased freight rates, due to war, acted adversely on trade in this product.

Chillies.

The value of this crop has decreased in the last five years from £20,000 to £5,835, representing a total of 5,116 cwts. exported from the Protectorate during the year. An increased crop is anticipated in 1914-15 as prices of chillies have risen considerably.

Oil Seeds.

Sim-sim (sesame) and ground nuts are the principal oil seeds grown for export; both form useful adjuncts to food supplies. The area estimated as being under sim-sim was 23,500 acres, under ground nuts 7,500 acres.

Wheat.

Increased attention has been given to wheat in the high lands of Toro at Mount Ruwenzori, where 500 acres are under cultivation; the cereal has also been introduced on the foot hills of Mount Elgon, where similar climatic conditions prevail.

Food Crops.

The native production of rice in the Eastern Province has increased and should become a more important crop with a growing demand for the grain for local consumption.

The cultivation of plantains, sweet potatoes, millet, maize, peas, and beans was increased to meet demands made necessary by hostilities. Supplies have been ample and efforts are in hand to meet abnormal future requirements. An estimated acreage of land under cultivation of foodstuffs is: Plantains 821,000 acres, sweet potatoes 290,000 acres, millets 360,000, maize, peas, beans, casava, sugar-cane, rice, chillies, etc., 144,000 acres.

Steady development work has been maintained on the European plantations during the year and the agricultural and economic position may be regarded as more stable than in previous years. The majority of plantations are in Buganda Province, where freehold holdings by Europeans amount to 7,650 acres; land is, however, being taken up for agricultural purposes in increasing quantities in Busoga, Toro, and Bunyoro, where freehold of 6,743 acres, 983 acres, and 447 acres has already been granted.

12. The more important planters' crops are:—

Coffee.

Coffee maintains its position as the principal crop on European plantations, the most general varieties being *Coffea arabica* and *Coffea robusta*. The average yield on estates was low in spite of favourable weather conditions, a fact attributable to an epidemic of coffee-leaf disease (*Hemileia vastatrix*), which killed many trees and weakened others. *Hemileia* is the only leaf disease of coffee in Uganda; its treatment and preservation is now more generally understood than heretofore, infection is subsiding, and alarm in its connexion has decreased. Exports of coffee for 1914–15 amounted to 21,101 cwts., valued at £41,017, an increase on the previous year's exports of 8,849 cwts.

Cocoa.

This crop is now being largely planted. Plantations are not as yet advanced sufficiently to give more than initial results. Sample shipments have been well reported on and planters are extending their areas under this valuable product.

Rubber.

The cultivation of *Funtumia elastica* has been abandoned on Government experimental plantations as unprofitable. The results obtained from Para rubber have been encouraging. The plant costs little to bring into bearing, but areas available are at present inextensive and future results cannot be foreseen with certainty. Other varieties of rubber are not favoured.

Tea.

The small experimental acreage under cultivation shows little signs of increasing. Samples of tea grown at Kampala were submitted to London and found to lack strength in comparison to Indian and Ceylon varieties. The commercial valuation of broken-leaf tea proved to be about 8d. per lb. (London, August, 1914).

(b) BOTANICAL SECTION.

13. Improvement has continued in the Botanical Gardens at Entebbe, further areas being planted with "French grass" (*Cynodon dactylon*) and their appearance thereby added to. Experimental work on rubber, cocoa, and coffee has been continued.

Para rubber trees have grown satisfactorily although suffering considerably from *Fomes semitostus* and *Hymenochaete noxia*. An average of 467 trees, tapped on alternate days during ten months of the year, yielded 1,132 lb. of dry rubber inclusive of "crepe" and "scrap," or an average output per tree of 2·42 lb. A consignment of rubber was forwarded for sale to London towards the end of the year, but no particulars of prices obtained have been received at the time this report is written.

There are several varieties of *Theobroma cacao* in cultivation in the garden, the growth of which has been satisfactory. "Scale" proved troublesome, a number of pods were affected by brown rot (*Phytophthora fabere*), and some trees by boring beetles. These affections were promptly dealt with before material damage occurred.

Experimental planting was made with Costa Rica coffee without satisfactory result, and indications were obtained that the species was equally subject to attacks from *Hemileia vastatrix* as other varieties planted in the Protectorate. *Coffea robusta*, obtained from the Sese islands on Lake Victoria, has shown greatest immunity from leaf disease, while *Coffea liberica* has not as yet been attacked. The development of the latter variety is, however, slow.

Large numbers of ornamental and economic plants and fruit tree seedlings of mangoes, oranges, limes, and lemons were distributed gratis to out-stations, but sales of seeds, particularly of cocoa and Para rubber—have decreased with progress of cultivation on plantations.

(c) LIVE STOCK.

14. The number of horned cattle in the Protectorate is estimated at 843,600 head, and the number of sheep and goats at 1,812,000. These figures do not include live stock in certain districts of the Northern and Eastern Provinces, or in Rudolf Province, where the herds in native possession are known to be considerable.

The export value of hides has risen from £17,974 to £52,458 in the last five years; that of goat skins decreased during 1914-15 from £29,000 to £19,091. The value of sheep skins fell during the period under review to such an extent that export became unremunerative, the net decrease in number of skins exported being 37,466.

Cattle Diseases.

15. The following are the most important diseases of cattle met with in Uganda :—

Rinderpest.

This disease, which had been existent in the country bordering the Nile for many years and which made its appearance in the county of Kiagwe in Buganda Province in 1913, was checked in June, 1914, by strict quarantine regulations, the immunisation of cattle exposed to infection, and the destruction, or cremation, of infected carcasses. Fresh centres of infection appeared later in the year in this locality among herds which had escaped previous infection; the county of Bugerere, which lies adjacent to the Victoria Nile, was also affected.

Infection in both cases was attributed to game. Inoculation camps were established, but efforts made to induce natives who owned herds to have their cattle immunised did not prove wholly successful. Between 2,500 and 3,000 uninoculated cattle were lost; among immunised cattle the death-rate was reduced to 6·4 per cent. Methods of treatment which proved most successful were immunisation by the serum and virulent blood method and, in early cases, by use of potassium permanganate. The average mortality from rinderpest, if untreated, has been estimated at a ratio over 70 per cent. In the Eastern Province, where the disease had been held in check since 1912, infection became widespread and a large number of young stock was lost, although a decrease in the virulence of the disease was noticeable in Teso. In Busoga and Bukedi no estimate of loss is obtainable. In the Northern Province losses of cattle were less serious than formerly. The Western Province is not yet affected.

Among the game of the country, bush-buck, bush-pig, buffalo, reed-buck, and water-buck are reported to have died from cattle plague.

Trypanosomiasis.

A serious outbreak occurred among transport oxen in Kampala although dairy cattle were not affected. The transmitting agent is at present in question, but it is probable that cattle found with trypanosomes of the *vivax-uniforme* group have been exposed to bites of "*Glossina palpalis*." Elsewhere in the Protectorate, with the exception of Buruli, in the north of the Buganda Province, trypanosomiasis of cattle has not caused serious loss. In Buruli 1,114 cattle out of 1,290 are reported to have died, the probable source of infection being "*Glossina morsitans*." A marked increase in the numbers of this fly has occurred in Ankole District, in the Western Province, where cattle, goats, and dogs were found to be generally infected.

Foot and Mouth Disease.

Except among transport cattle, the disease in Uganda is of no great economic importance, as it seldom proves fatal.

Diseases of Equines.

16. Numerous cases of horse sickness occurred among imported mules, but mules and ponies which had been for some years in the Protectorate were not affected although exposed to simultaneous infection.

Considerable losses occurred amongst donkeys from intestinal parasites.

Losses from lymphangitis decreased in comparison with previous years.

Diseases of Sheep and Goats.

17. Scabies has been responsible for losses in the Western Province. Contagious pleuro-pneumonia of goats is widespread and carries off many when herds are moved from one district to another.

Diseases of Dogs.

18. Piroplasmosis is common, but yields generally to treatment by trypanblue.

Filariasis is common, few native dogs being uninfected.

Rabies has not yet appeared in the Protectorate.

(d) BIOLOGICAL SECTION.

19. The work of the year in the entomological division was relegated to the identification and combating of various insect pests found on plantations; systematic collections of insects and investigations on any extended scale proved impracticable, owing to the depleted state of the staff.

20. Mycological research by the department consisted in further investigation of diseases attacking the more important economic plants of the country. Coffee-leaf disease has been found to yield to spraying with solutions of copper sulphate if the practice is commenced in the early stages of plants, but sporadic cases are recorded in which *Hemileia vastatrix* has attacked coffee estates and subsequently disappeared without this treatment. It is doubtful, therefore, if spraying has been the direct cause for reduction in virulence of the disease and experiments with a view to ascertaining source of infection and further means of arresting the spread of the disease are being continued.

With the increase of the area under cocoa, diseases of the crop are likely to be more prevalent, but they are at present infinitesimal in occurrence and in their responsibility for damage or loss. Para rubber trees and cotton have proved remarkably free from fungoid diseases.

IV.—FORESTRY.

21. Although the areas of forest in Uganda are considerable and capable of extensive development, the want of transport facilities and the limitations of the local market are such as to prohibit early profitable exploit on a large scale. The revenue obtained during the year from the Protectorate forests is consequently small.

V.—LAND AND SURVEY.

(a) SURVEY.

22. *Topographical.*—An area of 1,540 square miles was added to the general topographical survey of the Protectorate. No maps of importance were published during the year.

23. *Cadastral*.—Theodolite observations in connexion with the survey of native estates in the Buganda Province were completed over an area of 1,492 square miles during the year and detail work over an area of 1,049 square miles. The total area surveyed on the 31st March, 1915, in Buganda was estimated at 5,699 square miles.

The survey of Crown lands and estate surveys made small progress during the year owing to the temporary transfer of the greater part of the staff allotted to this work to duties in connexion with the war. An area of 13,500 acres was surveyed, but reliable figures as to cost are not at present available in view of the limited area traversed.

(b) LAND.

24. The number of grants and leases during 1914–15 is as follows :—

				Leases.	Grants.
Township plots	..	..	..	34	7
Agricultural land	..	..	..	13	30

25. A demand for agricultural land outside the Buganda Province increased and the greater proportion of applications received during the past year were in respect of land situated in Toro, in the Western Province, and in Bunyoro, in the Northern Province. The soil of these districts is fertile and the climate pleasant, particularly in the vicinity of Fort Portal, while increasing facilities of communication over the Busoga Railway and Busoga Railway Marine Service on the Victoria Nile offer planters in Bunyoro advantageous connexion with Lake Victoria and the main railway system to the coast. Toro is less advantageously situated in regard to communications with the Uganda Railway, but possesses, with Bunyoro, a more dependable supply of labour than that obtainable in areas nearer Lake Victoria.

26. The demand by non-natives for native land in the Buganda Province has decreased during the period under review.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) GENERAL.

27. General progress has been maintained in the improvement and extension of internal communications by further construction in the Eastern Province of the road system designed to feed the Busoga Railway and its connecting steamboat service on the waterways of Lake Kioga and by the continuation to the port of Butiaba, on Lake Albert, of the motor route through Bunyoro, over which ultimate junction by mechanical transport, of the above services with Belgian Congo and the Sudan, will be rendered possible. The construction of the Kampala-Port Bell Railway, $7\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length, which had been considerably delayed during 1913–14 by delay in receipt of necessary material and labour difficulties, was brought to a state of practical completion by the end of March, 1915, at a cost of £30,191, a sum

met from a loan of £125,000 from Imperial funds. This line, which has since been opened for traffic, is of only local importance, at present, but will increase in value with the development of the Protectorate and the possible formation of a trunk railway across Uganda to the south-west of Lake Albert.

(b) RAILWAYS AND MARINE.

28. There are two separate lines of railway in the Protectorate. The Busoga Railway, 62 miles in length, connects Lake Victoria with the navigable waters of the Nile and Lake Kioga. The Kampala-Port Bell Railway, of $7\frac{1}{4}$ miles, connects the principal business centre of Kampala with the Lake at Port Bell. Both lines are built with a metre gauge, and are under the control and management of the Uganda Railway.

Busoga Railway and Marine.

29. The working of the Busoga Railway and Busoga Railway Marine Service proved again disappointing and resulted, after deducting loan interest and sinking fund charges of £7,650, in a loss of £7,924, in place of the small profit anticipated. The deficit was due to the disorganisation, as a consequence of war, of the Protectorate cotton industry and the reduced production of local crops, from the freight on which the main revenue had been expected. Permanent buildings have been erected at several stations on the line and conditions of maintenance camps improved with the object of retaining natives in more permanent employment than has heretofore been experienced. The line was well maintained and free from serious accident during the year.

30. Further progress was made with cutting passages to the sudd-blocked ports on Lake Kioga, and the sum of £2,267 available under the loan of 1912-13 for improvements in communications in the Eastern Province was utilised in rendering the steamer passage to Sambwe navigable throughout the year, in opening a new channel for steamer traffic to Gogonia and continuing the existing channel towards Agu. It has proved impracticable to push a steamer channel to Agu without the assistance of dredgers, but connexion with the Busoga Marine Service is effected in the meantime by means of lighters or barges, and a small steamer is able to reach a point within twelve miles from the port under normal water conditions. The opening of Gogonia as a port of call should prove a valuable outlet for the Bukedi cotton industry, while Agu becomes yearly more accessible as a port for the handling of the crop in the Teso district. Investigation of local conditions in regard to further improvement of the Sambwe-Agu channel are in hand with a view to their adoption as soon as funds are available.

Kampala-Port Bell Railway.

31. The construction of the Kampala-Port Bell Railway was interrupted by the outbreak of war, consequent delays in delivery of material, and demands for labour for local military requirements. Completion was retarded and the line was not opened for public traffic during the year as had been expected.

Albert Marine Transport Service.

32. The service consists of one small passenger and cargo steamer, a steam launch, and two sailing craft, and maintains regular connexions with Nimule (Sudan) on the Nile and the ports of Kasendji and Mahagi in Belgian Congo. The traffic to these latter ports showed signs of rapid increase before the outbreak of war, and the building of an additional steamer to deal with growing trade requirements with Belgian Congo ports is under consideration and will be put in hand once normal conditions are resumed.

(c) WHEELED TRANSPORT.

33. The motor branch of the Uganda Transport Department, assisted in the Eastern Province by a small firm of mechanical transport contractors, has been responsible for the carriage during 1914-15 of 61·14 per cent. of the total tonnage handled by Government on the Protectorate roads, or an increase of 17·76 per cent. on corresponding figures for the previous year. The freight carried by these combined motor services amounted to 7,288 tons, an increase of 202 tons over the figures for 1913-14.

34. The total number of motor vans in possession of the Transport Department is twelve.

35. Fourteen trained natives have replaced the Asiatic drivers of Government motor vehicles, but a proportion of European driver mechanics is retained on the departmental establishment and employed principally on repairs and overhaul, the building of bodies, which is now undertaken in the Government garage at Kampala, and in technical instruction of native chauffeurs. Natives have proved capable drivers and are more proficient than formerly, but are unable as yet to carry out any but the minor running repairs.

36. There are four Government motor services in use in the Protectorate, between Entebbe and Kampala, between Kampala and Kibale, a point 130 miles on the road to Fort Portal, between Masindi Port, Masindi, and a point seven miles from the port of Butiaba on Lake Albert, and between Kampala and Jinja as far as Mukono. The latter service was instituted to handle the traffic in connexion with the coffee plantations *en route* and is as yet confined in operation to the dry seasons of the year. A private motor van service in the Eastern Province connects Jinja to Iganga and has released Government vans on this road.

37. The freight by Government bullock transport amounted in weight to 1,978 tons, a decrease of 727 tons on the previous year, which is attributable to war and the necessary transfer of carts, bullocks, and mules to the military authorities.

38. No great progress has as yet been effected towards a more general employment of wheeled transport by private firms. The dislocation of business caused by war and contraction of capital has been in part responsible for delay, while the present incomplete linking of the various centres on the road system has retarded immediate

advantage being taken of the facilities which the motor roads afford. Private motor transport in connexion with the Belgian Congo was started through Bunyoro in the Northern Province and a few American Ford cars have engaged in passenger traffic between Entebbe and Kampala. "Hamali" carts have been employed also wherever possible in the Protectorate in place of head portorage. It is satisfactory to note that the use, by the Government Transport Department, of native carriers has decreased during the period under review, the amount transported in this way being 927 tons, or 300 tons less than the total portorage for the previous year.

(d) ROADS.

39. The principal construction work in progress in the Protectorate is that of the system of roads in the Eastern Province designed to feed the Busoga Railway and Marine, together with the building of a main route in the Northern Province to connect these services with Lake Albert, the Sudan, and Belgian Congo.

40. Progress of construction in the Eastern Province has been fair in spite of labour difficulties due to the raw stamp of natives available, the interruptions caused by the cotton-sowing and picking seasons and the indifferent health of the European staff. Forty-four miles were completed during the year, making the total of 116 miles of built road out of 212 included in the scheme. The average cost of the complete portion is £156 per mile, a figure which does not include supervision or metalling with hard stone. On the Masindi Port-Butiaba Road 11 miles were completed at a cost of £2,148, making a total of £11,879 on 69 miles or an average expenditure of £172 per mile. The total length of this road when finished will be 76 miles.

41. A lightly metalled road of 54 miles length between Jinja and Kampala has been completed for a distance of 30 miles during the year under review to connect the two commercial centres and to afford the coffee plantations in the vicinity access to the Lake ports.

(e) POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

42. There are 22 postal telegraph and telephone offices and 14 maintenance telephone stations in the Protectorate and all principal administrative posts are now connected with the Government headquarters at Entebbe by telegraph.

43. There are 1,045 miles of telegraph line, of which 376 miles are erected on iron posts and 669 miles on growing poles.

44. The revenue derived from the Post and Telegraph Departments was £7,083, as against £8,191 in the previous year.

45. The total expenditure amounted to £14,459, a decrease of £900 on the figures for the previous year.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND CLIMATE.

(a) POPULATION.

46. The population of the Protectorate in March, 1915, was estimated at a total of 2,927,494. In this total are included 903 Europeans, of whom 269 are females, and 3,560 Asiatics, comprising 2,859 males and 701 females. The native population in those areas where reliable estimates are obtainable has been returned at 1,267,771 males and 1,505,260 females, or a total of 2,773,031, while that in the un-administered regions of the Northern and Eastern Provinces is estimated at a further approximate figure of 150,000. The gross native population, therefore, may be taken as 2,923,031, against 2,840,469 as enumerated in the last census in March, 1911.

Birth, Marriage, and Death Rates.

47. Complete statistics of native births and deaths are not available throughout the Protectorate, but returns rendered by native chiefs from administered areas, comprising almost half the Protectorate, show that 33,100 births were registered during the year in the proportion of 23·4 per 1,000 of living persons in the districts concerned. The registered deaths in the same area numbered 29,697, or 20·5 per 1,000 of its population. In comparison with 1913, the birth-rate shows a decrease of 1·53 per mille and the death-rate a decrease of 1·91 per mille.

48. Two thousand, one hundred and sixty native marriages were contracted during the year from a total, estimated by the census of 1911, of approximately 431,301 adherents to Christianity.

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH.

49. Returns from Government hospitals and dispensaries show a decrease in the number of cases treated from 112,624 to 90,730. The reduced total is due to the transfer of ten medical officers and six members of the subordinate staff from the medical and sanitary services of the Protectorate to military employment, and to the consequent performance of routine duties by a skeleton staff.

Europeans.

50. The health of the European officials has been satisfactory. The total number resident during the year was 298, amongst whom there were 3 deaths and 582 cases of illness, as compared with 485 cases of illness and no deaths during 1913. Of the 582 cases, 381 were placed off duty for treatment. Of the total admissions to hospital, 186 were due to malaria and 6 to blackwater fever.

General European Population.

51. The European population, inclusive of officials, was 903. The number of cases treated at Government hospitals was 1,137, as compared to 953 in 1913. The principal diseases were: malaria 347 cases, blackwater fever 28 cases, enteric 17 cases, and digestive diseases 234 cases.

52. An epidemic of enteric fever, which assumed for a time alarming features, occurred towards the end of 1914. There is evidence to show that this was introduced from East Africa, the initial cases occurring among travellers on the lake steamers from that Protectorate, who developed the disease a few days after crossing Lake Victoria. There were 21 cases in all, but the epidemic declined rapidly, and, at the time this report is written, no other cases have occurred as far as is known.

Native Population.

53. The diseases of natives which call for special attention are: plague, sleeping sickness, spirillum fever, leprosy, smallpox, and venereal diseases.

Plague.

Plague prevails mainly in the Eastern Province, although cases have occurred in the Buganda Province and in the districts west of the Nile. The disease has spread in the Lango district of the Eastern Province, but its incidence elsewhere where organisation for its prevention is in force has diminished. The work of native inspectors appointed to control the disease and prevent its concealment has been satisfactory and rewards offered for the destruction of rats produced, in one district, surprising results.

Sleeping Sickness.

The diminution of the number of cases continues satisfactory and is believed to be general. The discovery of a new species of trypanosome in the cattle of Bunyoro gave rise to apprehension of the possibility of its transmission to human beings. The supposition was based on its morphological resemblance to a trypanosome pathogenic to man in Rhodesia, but research has resulted in the opinion that the fear was groundless and proposals for costly measures which had been contemplated to eradicate *Glossina morsitans*, the carrier of this parasite, were abandoned.

Spirillum Fever.

The case incidence of this disease has decreased materially with improved preventive measures adopted against the spirillum tick.

Leprosy.

This disease is scattered over the Protectorate. Attempts have been made from time to time to segregate lepers in special settlements

under supervision of local chiefs, but have proved unsatisfactory, and later efforts to segregate them in their villages have achieved little success. Lack of funds in the meantime hinders any comprehensive scheme of segregation, but there is no reason to suppose that the disease is increasing.

Smallpox.

Several local outbreaks occurred, in particular in the Eastern Province, where the disease became epidemic towards the end of the year.

The number of vaccinations effected was 13,687.

(c) SANITATION.

54. The local sanitary boards, whose functions had been greatly extended by legislation in 1913, continued to exercise control of sanitary administration with satisfactory results. The cleared areas in all Government stations have been extended and the work of anti-malaria gangs continued.

(d) CLIMATE.

55. The climate varies considerably in different areas of the Protectorate. In the Nile valley, 2,000 feet above sea level, the conditions are tropical and more unhealthy than in the higher lying lands between Lake Victoria and Lake Albert. The most pleasant climate in Uganda is found in the vicinity of Lake Victoria and in the districts of the Western Province, where the altitude exceeds 5,000 feet above the sea in certain areas and where conditions of living approach those of the temperate zones.

Rainfall.

56. The average rainfall for the calendar year 1914 at 32 recording stations, where regular observations were taken, was 52.76 inches.

57. Two yearly rainy seasons occur throughout the Protectorate, but without great regularity as to incidence or duration. The heavy rains fall between April and the middle of June, a more protracted period occurring between September and mid-December. Local variation of these wet seasons is considerable and marked differences in rainfall are met with in places closely adjacent to each other.

VIII.—JUDICIAL.

58. The number of criminal cases tried in the High Court and the British Courts subordinate thereto amounted during 1914 to 1,212, as compared with 1,272 cases in 1913. The number of persons involved in the charges was 1,666, a decrease of 21 on the number for the previous year. Of those charged, 1,383 were convicted, 197 were acquitted, and 86 discharged for want of evidence.

59. Civil cases dealt with by the Protectorate British Courts numbered 861, an increase of 212 on the total for 1913.

60. Recommendations have been submitted during the year by the Chief Justice to minimise the inconvenience caused to advocates and the public in Kampala owing to sittings of the High Court being confined to Entebbe, and district registries of the High Court have been established at Kampala and at Jinja to admit of High Court suits being filed and interlocutory applications dealt with at those places.

61. The organisation of the existing native courts in the Protectorate has continued to improve under the supervision of the administrative officers in each district.

IX.—EDUCATION.

62. In the absence of any Government schools in the Protectorate, the education of the natives rests with the three missionary societies established in the country, assisted by subsidies from the Crown. These societies maintain a number of elementary schools at their more important centres, with a few higher grade schools and normal schools for the training of teachers. Village schools, primitive in character, are established also in the populated areas of the Protectorate, for the elementary teaching of children. These are supervised solely by native teachers.

63. Natives who have completed their training in the more advanced schools are much sought after as assistant clerks, time-keepers, and interpreters by the commercial and planting interests in the Protectorate and by the chiefs of the country. Minor posts under Government are also open to them, but the standard of education attained is not yet sufficiently high to allow of their obtaining the better paid clerical appointments in the Protectorate service. Small fees are demanded at the higher grade schools from such as can afford them, but as yet a considerable number of intelligent children receive their education free. The Church Missionary Society continue to encourage the education of girls and four boarding schools are now established in the country for their use.

Technical Education.

64. At different centres in the Protectorate instructions in carpentering, brickmaking, masonry, building, weaving, and other handicrafts is given to the natives at schools established by the different missions. Two printing presses are controlled by the Church Missionary Society and the White Fathers' Missions, which materially aid the work of these missions.

The growth of education and the demand for opportunity to acquire elementary knowledge has made marked advance during the year, although decrease in the figures of attendance in the day schools has been noticeable.

X.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

65. The outbreak of war in Europe was followed by widespread expressions of loyalty to the British Government and by offers of service and assistance from the chiefs and people of the Uganda Protectorate. Valuable help has been rendered the military authorities by the Baganda, Banyoro, and other tribes, under guidance of their chiefs, and praiseworthy activity evinced in the mobilisation of a force of native levies, the collection of recruits and transport carriers and in organisation of native food supplies. Considerable bodies of natives were despatched to East Africa after commencement of hostilities to assist military transport in that country, and large numbers, in addition to the regular troops, have been occupied in combatant and non-combatant capacities on the southern and western frontiers of the Protectorate.

66. Political relations with the existing native Governments in Uganda have continued satisfactory and notable advance made in the administration of certain outlying districts in the Northern Province where forms of central native governing bodies have been inaugurated. With the exception of a few minor raids, no disturbance has occurred on the confines of the Protectorate, while in the administered areas the conduct of affairs has made progress, although retarded in some measure by the dislocation of work caused by war. The extension of a closer administration to the territory on the west bank of the Nile acquired in January, 1914, by the adjustment of the frontier between Uganda and the Sudan, has been successful and has facilitated the administration of the areas on the eastern side of the river.

Buganda Province.

67. His Highness the Kabaka came of age on attaining 18 years on the 8th August, 1914, and was invested with the powers accorded him under terms of the Buganda Agreement, the three regents relinquishing their duties and reverting, on that date, to their respective offices under the native Government. Native administration of this province, which is in the hands of the Native Council, or Lukiko, comprising the Kabaka, his ministers, the county and lesser chiefs, is in a satisfactory state and the increasing volume of work entrusted to their care has been carried out, on the whole, with zeal and diligence. Both chiefs and the educated classes of the people have absorbed rapidly the altered and advancing conditions of life resulting from the development of the Protectorate and deserve commendation for their capacity for organisation in a novel situation presented by the outbreak of war. General progress has, however, been retarded by local hostilities, by difficulties experienced in maintaining the regular tours of inspection by administrative officers, and by the necessary employment of many chiefs in work outside their usual spheres of action.

68. The demand for labour to meet all wants of the Government, planters, and traders has been considerable throughout the year, while the available supply around the centres of Kampala and Entebbe has

been depleted by demands for levies and military transport. Assistance has been obtained to meet pressing wants by drafts of natives from Mubendi district, where the total of porters supplied for labour has exceeded that of previous years.

69. The growth of the trading centre of Kampala, its floating population, the yearly increasing development of the plantations in the province and the tendency of natives to take advantage of the facilities for travelling and trading are tending daily to increase the difficulties attendant on procuring sufficient labour for all requirements. The problem is not easy of solution, as constant or permanent employment is unnatural to the native, while the influence and power of the chiefs are decreasing with the advancing prosperity of the people of the country. Tension will, however, be relieved, to some extent, by the opening of the Kampala-Port Bell Railway, which has now been completed, by the employment of carts, which are used for all purposes between Masaka and Bukakata, and by the more general use of mechanical transport on the improved roads in the province once normal conditions are resumed. Many porters will be released by these means, who should become available for more desirable ends.

Eastern Province.

70. With the exception of a few unimportant disturbances on its borders, the political conditions of the Eastern Province have been satisfactory. General progress has been influenced but little by the conditions attendant on war and considerable advance has to be reported. The administrative duties of the chiefs have been more efficiently performed than heretofore, their councils more regularly attended and the judgments of the native courts enforced with decreasing intervention from district officers. Large numbers of natives are still employed throughout the various districts in portage owing to lack of sufficient wheeled conveyances, but the labour problem is as a whole less acute here than elsewhere in the Protectorate and plantations have been well served.

71. The development of the cotton industry, of which this province is the centre, has been retarded, owing to financial difficulties among ginner and buyers occasioned by the war, but improvement and progress are reported in the native cultivation of the crop itself and in the cultivation of other products for export. The native use of ploughs in place of native hoes is extending and, with improving transport conditions, the native development of the country's resources should speedily increase.

Northern Province.

72. Except in the district of Bunyoro, native administration in this province has not yet approached the advanced state found in the Buganda Province. In the remote districts of Gulu and Chua, where close administration is of recent date, an advance has been made towards the formation of the nucleus of a native Government in place of the scattered control under chiefs of varying influence and authority.

The new territory on the west bank of the Nile, which came under the Protectorate administration in the latter part of the year 1913-14, has been lightly administered, with gratifying results. In Bunyoro improvement has been manifest, but the natives who control the district are by nature indolent and lack interest in the development and progress of their country. General progress has been hampered throughout the Province by the conditions attendant on the war and the attention demanded from both district officers and chiefs for its local requirements.

73. The outbreak of hostilities on the Uganda frontier and in the adjoining Protectorate involved large demands for Banyoro transport carriers, which were readily complied with, and expressions of loyalty, with offers of personal services, were received by the Protectorate Government from individual chiefs and the combined native Lukiko. It is worthy of note that carriers engaged from Bunyoro behaved with commendable energy while employed on military operations in the adjoining Protectorate and German East Africa and displayed pluck and reliability on various occasions under fire.

Western Province.

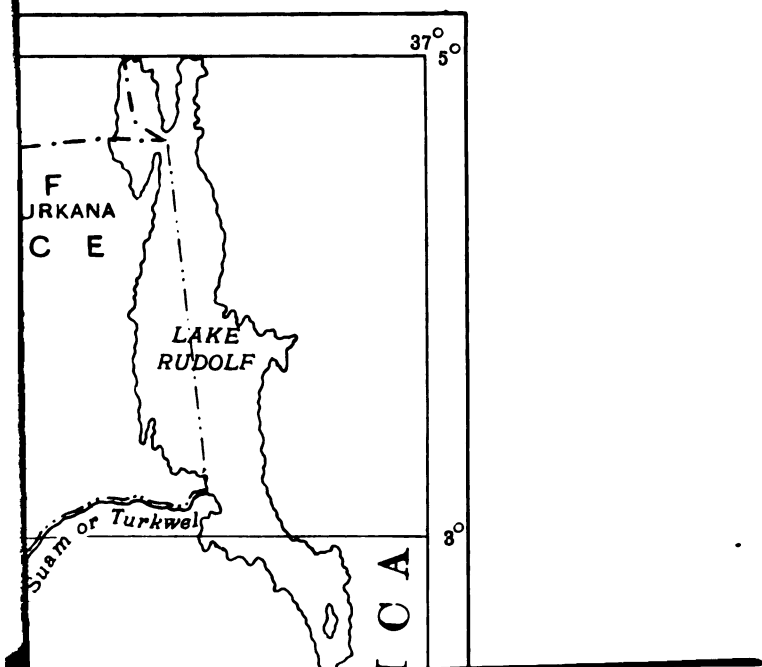
74. Except in the Kigezi district little disorganisation of native administration occurred in this Province.

75. Elsewhere indications of progress, greater efficiency and improvement were noticeable. The trade in hides, ghee, sheep, and goat skins has increased during the year and has been put to profitable account, while a gain of £1,644 is shown under the collections of poll tax, due to an increase from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 in the levy in taxation in the Toro district. Enterprise has been manifest among the chiefs of the Province, who have rendered efficient services in rapid road construction, the provision of food and in the recruiting of labour for military requirements. The native Government and the people lack determination and are backward when compared to those in the more central parts of the Protectorate.

76. The distant position of the Western Province from rail and steamer transport and the present lack of through motor connexion with these systems have hampered rapid economical progress, agricultural development, and the growth, by natives, of produce for outside markets. The Toro district is, however, among the most fertile in the Protectorate, while the rich grazing country in Ankole offers abundant pasturage and favourable conditions for raising the large herds of cattle that are found in that country.

XI.—GENERAL.

77. The year opened with signs of considerable activity in trade. Exports held out prospects of surpassing previous figures and, for four months, increased returns were recorded under every class of import reaching Uganda. Applications for land for agricultural



purposes in freshly exploited districts of the Protectorate were received in increasing numbers and a growing tendency was manifest to expand internal and transit trade towards the Belgian Congo. 1914 will, however, be remembered as the year of the outbreak of war in Europe. Local industries were immediately affected, trade disorganised, the cost of living increased, and the communication with the Protectorate by ocean, rail, and lake dislocated. The mobilisation of European and native defence forces was organised, and the Uganda Volunteer Reserve was called out on the 5th of August. Martial law was proclaimed throughout the Protectorate on the 18th August, 1914.

78. Funds available in the Protectorate have not admitted of a subscription towards Imperial expenses in connexion with the war, but a relief fund, instituted to assist distress in Europe and in Uganda, has been responsible for shipments of 55,770 lb. of home-grown coffee for use of our troops and the assistance of the distressed in England. A loyal and patriotic spirit has been shown by the whole population, and donations towards European charities and numerous offers of personal services have been received from European, Asiatic, and native alike.

79. The year under review has been uneventful as to marked development in any direction. General progress, however, has been maintained under adverse circumstances created by serious depletions in the Protectorate staff, and the co-operation of the various native Governments has been gratifying. Although debarred from taking a more active part in the European struggle, the significance of Great Britain being at war has been understood and ample proof is available that the inhabitants of Uganda are imbued with the same spirit of loyalty to the King which has been manifested in other parts of the Empire.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	1914-1915
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1914
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"
872	Falkland Islands	1914

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.



No. 874.

BRITISH GUIANA.

REPORT FOR 1914–15.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 833.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

February, 1916.



L O N D O N :

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE.

By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd. 8172.] Price 2½d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	7
LEGISLATION	16
EDUCATION	17
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	19
JUDICIAL STATISTICS	20
CRIMINAL STATISTICS	20
VITAL STATISTICS	21
POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE	23
OCEAN COMMUNICATION	23
MILITARY FORCES	24
IMMIGRATION	24
CLIMATE	25
GOVERNMENT STEAMER SERVICE	25
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	26
SKETCH MAP.	

No. 874.

BRITISH GUIANA

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 833.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Georgetown, Demerara,
4th December, 1915.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of the Blue Book of British Guiana for the year 1914-1915, together with the Report thereon prepared by Mr. G. D. Bayley, Assistant Government Secretary.

I have, &c.,

WALTER EGERTON.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1914-1915.

FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The revenue for the year was £586,598, showing a decrease of £22,035 as compared with the previous year.

2. The expenditure for the year was £622,025, or £29,493 more than the previous year, and there was a deficit of £35,427.

TAXATION.

3. The following Ordinance was passed during the year :—

Ordinance No. 24 of 1914, Section 2, to repeal 2 (a) of Ordinance 4 of 1914 and extend to British possessions, parties to the Canada-West India Convention, or such as may become parties thereto, the benefits of the preferential rates of import duties on such of their products as are imported into the Colony direct from the country of origin. Section 3, to repeal item 54 of Ordinance No. 4 of 1914 as regards the duty imposed on leaf tobacco contingent on the percentage of moisture contained therein. The change was effected to make the intention of the law on the point clearer. Section 4, to amend item 47 of the 3rd schedule of Ordinance No. 4 of 1914 by adding paper used for book-binding or book covers, and paper used for printing forms supplied to the Government, to the list of articles exempted from the payment of duty.

4. The regulations governing the entry of goods under the British preferential tariff in British Guiana passed on 13th May and 18th August, 1913, were repealed by further regulations passed on 9th November, 1914, but not to go into effect until 1st January, 1915. Section 4 of the amended regulations requires that all articles entitled to preference shall be accompanied by a certificate of origin, and further, that in order to substantiate the correctness of the particulars contained in the certificate, the importer shall produce at the request of the Comptroller of Customs in writing the railway bill of lading or a copy thereof duly certified by the Canadian Customs authorities, and section 10 requires that goods to be entitled to admission at the preferential rates shall be imported into British Guiana direct from the countries which are parties to the agreement,

an exception being made in the case of goods shipped from Canada *via* the United States, to the effect that such goods shall not be deemed to be affected by their passing through the United States as regards the question of direct consignment; they are to be treated as having passed through the United States exclusively for the purposes of through transportation to the importers in British Guiana. Goods from Canada are not to remain in the United States for any purpose other than for purposes of transit. And reconsignment of Canadian goods from the United States is not to be deemed to be direct consignment.

PUBLIC DEBT.

5. The public debt of the Colony at 31st March, 1915, was £882,115, a decrease of £1,300 as compared with the previous year. Of this amount £812,115 represents sums borrowed for the construction of public works and for public purposes, the balance of £70,000 having been raised for immigration purposes and being repayable out of moneys received from the planters under the provisions of the Immigration Loan Ordinance, 1864.

6. No loan has been issued during the year of report, but 3½ per cent. bonds under Ordinance 7 of 1887 have been converted into 4 per cent. bonds under Ordinance 19 of 1896 to the extent of £132,800, releasing an equivalent amount of investments made for the sinking fund established in respect of loans issued under Ordinance 7 of 1887. The amount so realised will become available for authorised loan purposes, thereby avoiding the expense to the Colony of raising a new loan in an unfavourable money market.

7. On the 31st March last, the sum of £148,717 had been advanced on account of loan works, and the sum of £54,587 had also been advanced to the East Demerara Sea Defence Commissioners, pending the raising of authorised loans.

8. The necessary provision for sinking fund and interest in respect of the Colony's loans, exclusive of immigration, has been regularly made, and the sum of £241,624 stood at credit of sinking fund account on 31st March last.

9. Taking the population at 309,938 souls, the public debt, exclusive of that portion of it raised for immigration purposes, amounts to £2 12s. 5d. per head of population.

CURRENCY.

10. Accounts are kept in dollars—the dollar being equal to 4s. 2d. The currency consists of British gold, silver, and bronze. There is little gold in circulation however. Notes are issued by the Royal Bank of Canada and Colonial Bank in denominations of \$5, \$20, and \$100.

MUNICIPALITIES.

Revenue and Expenditure.

11. The revenue and expenditure of the city of Georgetown and the town of New Amsterdam in the past year were as follows :—

Georgetown.

Revenue, £60,285. Expenditure, £59,491.

New Amsterdam.

Revenue, £12,462. Expenditure, £11,957.

12. Revenue is derived principally from a 2 per cent. tax on the appraised valuation of all houses and lands in the city and the usual municipal and water rates. The towns are well laid out. They are lighted by electricity and provided with day and night telephone service. There is also an efficient electric tramway service in Georgetown controlled by a private company, with some 13 miles of lines in operation within the town, and an extension outside the town limits of four miles of line to Plantation Peter's Hall. Georgetown has an efficient and well-equipped fire brigade.

13. In New Amsterdam the municipality operates its own electricity works, producing and supplying light to about 200 consumers, including the Government institutions in the town and environs, and lighting the streets and municipal buildings. A light of 150 candle power burns nightly on the tower of the Town Hall as a guide to mariners to the entrance of the harbour. Revenue is derived from a 2½ per cent. tax on the appraised valuation of the houses and lands in the town, from water supply, and electric light. The town properties are protected by a competent and well-disciplined fire brigade in conjunction with an excellent and reliable water service.

14. The funded debt of Georgetown at the end of the year was £64,063, and that of New Amsterdam £10,359.

15. At the close of the year there were 101 village and country districts under the control of the Local Government Board, ranging in importance from the small town with its 5,000 inhabitants to the hamlet with 100. They enjoy a liberal measure of self-government. Revenue is derived chiefly from a tax on the value of land and buildings—the revenue collected during the year was £13,202, against an expenditure of £12,683. Grants-in-aid or loans are from time to time made from general revenue to such of the villages as may need them. Provision for repayment is made regularly every year.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

16. The total value of the imports for the year 1914 (excluding transit trade) amounted to £1,596,985, being £14,445 less than the aggregate value of the imports of 1913.

17. The items Textiles, Paper manufactures, Haberdashery, and Millinery and coin are mainly accountable for the decrease.

The goods imported may be classified as follows :—

	1913. £	1914. £
1. Food, Drink, and Tobacco	566,596	589,453
2. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	95,976	196,073
3. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ..	886,633	748,095
4. Miscellaneous and unclassified	8,048	7,912
5. Bullion and Specie	54,177	55,452

18. On and after the 1st January, 1913, official import and export lists, compiled on models furnished by the Board of Trade, were brought into use with a view to securing greater uniformity in the keeping of the customs statistics throughout the British West Indies and British Guiana. The figures appearing in the above table for the years 1913 and 1914, represent the value of the total imports of all articles into the Colony and not merely the value of the imports entered for consumption as in the previous year.

19. Under the group Food, Drink, and Tobacco, the imports of flour show an increase, 179,372 packages of flour having been entered for consumption during 1914 as against 161,852 packages in 1913, showing an increase of 17,520 bags or barrels. Shortly after the outbreak of hostilities large stocks of flour were held in the Colony. At the end of September there were considerable stocks on hand, as many as 23,133 packages being imported in that month, compared with a monthly average of 14,203 packages for the other 11 months of the year.

20. The value of the imports of tobacco in 1914 amounted to £32,182, as against £30,398 in 1913, showing an increase of £1,784.

21. The increase in the quantity of leaf tobacco cleared for consumption amounted to 25,202 lbs., and the increase in value to £281. The removal early in 1913 of the restriction as regards the percentage of fat in leaf tobacco would appear to have had the effect of sending the imports up, with corresponding good results in revenue, as will be seen in the quantities duty-paid in 1912, 1913, and 1914, which were 383,601 lbs., 388,213 lbs., and 414,521 lbs. respectively.

22. Increased importations of leaf tobacco can still be looked for in succeeding years, as 539,851 lbs. were cleared for consumption in 1907-1908, the last fiscal year before the imposition of the fat restriction.

23. The increase under raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured is more apparent than real, having been caused chiefly by the regrouping of certain articles—viz., oils of all kinds.

24. In Group 3 the principal decreases occurred under the heads of cotton manufactures, apparel, silk manufactures and wool manufactures. There can be no doubt that these decreases are traceable directly to the War; the imports from Germany and Austria, which supplied in large quantities certain classes of these articles through the United Kingdom and other places, having been prohibited from the outbreak of hostilities. A large trade was also done between this Colony and Belgium and Holland in haberdashery and millinery, and paper manufactures, all of which show a great falling off, importations from these countries being restricted by the shortage of freight steamers, the high rise in rates of freight, and other unavoidable causes.

25. The value of silver coin brought into the Colony was less than in 1913 by £20,152 18s., and the exports £37,500 below those of the preceding year. Importations have been unnecessary for local purposes, and exportation was prohibited by proclamation of His Excellency the Governor.

EXPORTS.

26. The total value of the exports for the year ended 31st December, 1914, was £2,623,064. This amount includes British and foreign goods re-exported and transhipped during the year, valued at £266,172. The value of the export trade was greater than the previous year's transactions to the value of £409,935, or an increase of nearly 20 per cent.

27. The table below shows the value of the exports (excluding transit trade) under the five classes into which they naturally fall :—

	1913. £	1914. £
1. Food, Drink, and Tobacco	1,449,658	1,954,929
2. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	238,701	180,032
3. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ..	79,874	49,045
4. Miscellaneous and unclassified	660	480
5. Bullion and Specie	341,502	269,469

28. The principal articles responsible for the increase under Class 1 are sugar, rum, coffee, and coconuts, the quantity of sugar sent out of the Colony during 1914 being 19,724 tons in excess of the 1913 output, and the increase in value amounted to £472,153. The total quantity of sugar exported during the year was 107,138 tons, valued at £1,574,823, being the largest output for any year since 1909–1910, the year before the drought visitation; of this quantity 52,191 tons went to Canada, 52,162 tons to the United Kingdom, and 2,735 tons to the United States.

29. The price of sugar from the beginning of the year until the outbreak of war was low, but with the commencement of hostilities prices advanced rapidly, and nearly all the available October-December crop was sold to the British Government at the excellent price of £17 per ton.

30. A large increase is shown in the exports of rum; the quantity exported exceeded that for 1913 by 228,743 proof gallons; the value was £27,698 in excess. There was greater activity in the rum market in the United Kingdom particularly in the latter half of the year. The stoppage of the supplies of neutral spirit from Germany probably stimulated the demand for rum. Prices were well maintained during the year and therefore encouraged the distillers to distil more rum than usual.

31. The exports of coffee were very satisfactory. The total quantity exported amounted to 238,784 lbs. of a value of £5,667. This is considerably more than double the quantity exported in 1913, and by far the largest amount sent abroad in one year since the coffee industry was re-vitalised about the year 1908. Prior to that year no coffee exports of any importance were made since the year 1846.

32. A record was created in the exports of coconuts. The total quantity sent abroad during the year was 1,889,921 nuts of a value amounting to £6,359. Quite a large number of coconut trees have been planted in the Colony within the past seven years and the exports should continue to increase for some time to come, particularly if the coconut values which have ruled high in the world's markets for the past year or two, are maintained. There were also increases in the exports of coconut oil and copra to the extent of 11,888 gallons and 564 cwt. respectively, during 1914, as compared with the previous year. Most of the oil was exported to the British West Indies.

33. There was a decrease in rice exports, the quantity sent abroad during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1914, being less than the previous year by 12,401 cwt. The exports amounted to 141,791 cwt. and the value to £106,696, being 12,401 cwt. and a value of £3,459 less than £106,696 for the previous year.

34. The decrease in the exports of rice may be attributable to the fact that a prohibition was placed on its exportation shortly after the outbreak of war, which was, however, subsequently removed.

35. The chief decreases under Class 2 occurred in the exports of balata, timber, and lumber.

36. Balata exports show a substantial shrinkage when compared with the previous year. During 1913 the quantity of Colony-bled balata exported was 1,323,609 lbs. of a value of £160,096, but the quantities sent to markets abroad during the year have fallen short of these figures by 300,858 lbs. and £54,395 respectively. About 90 per cent. of the balata exported from the Colony goes to the London market, and in this market Germany was a large purchaser. From the commencement of hostilities to the end of the year the balata market was completely disorganised, and in consequence considerable quantities of balata were stored in the Colony to await a chance of better prices in the European markets.

37. Decreases occurred in the exports of timber and lumber to the extent of 224,693 cubic feet and 263,047 feet respectively, in quantity, and £18,290 and £1,900 in value. There was a lesser demand abroad for these articles during the year in consequence of the war, and therefore the exports from the Colony showed a shrinkage. In 1913, 105,056 cubic feet of greenheart timber was exported to Holland as against 13,996 cubic feet in the year under review.

38. The increase in the exports of diamonds was 627 carats, valued at £1,017. There has been no demand for diamonds since the commencement of the war, and but for this fact the output would have been greater.

39. Under Class 3 the value of the exports of cattle foods for the year was £16,574 less than that of the preceding trade period.

40. Molasses exports decreased by 35,502 gallons when compared with the previous year, and molascuit also decreased by 4,433 tons. These decreases are explained by the increased production of rum in consequence of the better prices which the article has obtained since the outbreak of war, the making of rum being more profitable under the circumstances than the shipping of molasses or the manufacture of molascuit.

41. The decrease in the exports shown under Class 4 is due to the revised method of keeping the statistics introduced in the year under review.

42. The value of colonial produce exported in each of the last five years is as follows :—

					£
1910-1911	..	..	..	..	1,628,105
1911	..	..	..	..	1,850,733
1912	..	..	..	..	1,576,988
1913	..	..	..	..	1,992,884
1914	..	..	..	..	2,356,892

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

43. The following table shows the trend of the aggregate trade of the Colony for 1914 :—

				Imports.	Exports.	Aggregate
				per cent.	per cent.	trade.
						per cent.
United Kingdom	..	..	..	52·09	60·63	57·40
Dominion of Canada	..	..	..	12·35	25·49	20·52
Other British Possessions	..	..	..	5·05	4·98	5·01
United States of America	..	..	..	23·72	3·12	10·91
Other Foreign Countries	..	..	..	6·79	5·78	6·16

44. The United Kingdom appropriated a larger portion of the aggregate trade of the Colony in 1914, as compared with 1913, by 6·18 per cent., which was mainly due to increased exports of sugar and rum to that country.

45. Canada further increased her hold on the import trade of the Colony, the value of the imports from that country being 12·35 per cent. in 1914, against 8·57 per cent. in 1913, and 6·59 per cent. in 1912, chiefly as a result of the Canada-West Indies Reciprocity Agreement which gives Canadian flour a preference on importation of 25 cents per barrel of 196 lbs. In 1912 the percentage of Canadian flour to the total imports of that article was 29·00, in 1913 it was 51·59, and 1914, 75·32 per cent. The percentage of imports of American flour for the same periods was 68·25, 47·99, and 24·65.

46. The value of exports to Canada during 1914 shows a decrease of 10·84 per cent. of the total export trade, causing a decrease in the aggregate trade of 3·71 per cent. as compared with 1913. The decrease in the export trade may be regarded as momentary since shipments of sugar to Canada in 1914 were greatly curtailed owing to the war, and the great demand for sugar in the United Kingdom.

47. There was a slight increase in the import trade with the United States in 1914 of 1·05 per cent. and a decrease of ·62 per cent. in the export and transit trade, resulting in a decrease of 1·08 per cent. in the aggregate trade done with that country.

AGRICULTURE.

48. The sugar crop of the Colony was an average one. As the crops of 1912 and 1913 had been adversely affected by the prolonged droughts of 1911 and 1912, it was expected that the 1914 crop would be larger than that of either of the two preceding years. The total export for the year was 107,138 tons, an increase of 19,724 tons over that of 1913, and of 29,350 tons over that of 1912. The total export of rum was 3,489,729 proof gallons, a slight increase over that of the previous year. The exports of molasses and molascuit showed a decrease, 83,197 gallons and 2,427 tons respectively being exported as against 118,699 gallons and 6,860 tons in 1913.

49. The returns submitted by sugar estates in the Colony show that in 1914 more than four-fifths of the total area under sugar cane was planted in varieties other than the Bourbon. Of the area cultivated in these varieties 85 per cent. was under canes raised from seed in this Colony while about 14 per cent. was occupied by varieties imported from Barbados.

SUBSIDIARY AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

Rice.

50. The area under rice amounted to 47,037 acres, yielding 66,268 tons of paddy last year. Attention is being given to cultivation and reaping of rice by mechanical means, and this method has passed successfully through its experimental stage. The rice grown is of excellent quality; 7,089 tons of rice and 240 tons of rice-meal were exported during the year 1914. The very keen demand amongst planters of rice for the specially selected seed paddy produced at the experimental fields of the Board of Agriculture continued during this year. Very large areas of the front lands of the Colony undoubtedly are pre-eminenty suitable for the cultivation of rice.

Cacao.

51. The acreage under cacao showed a slight increase, being now 2,454 acres. The export of cacao decreased from 800 cwts. in 1913 to 445 cwts. this year. A very large proportion of the cacao produced is, however, used locally either in the preparation of chocolate or of sweets, etc. There is an extensive belt of land in the Colony well suited for cacao.

Rubber.

52. The planting of Para rubber continues to slowly increase. It is estimated that nearly 5,000 acres are now planted with Para rubber in the Colony. There was little demand during the year for Para rubber plants, and only 23,000 have been sold by the Department of Science and Agriculture.

It is now clearly proved that the Para rubber tree will grow well on suitable lands in the Colony. Tapping operations are only being conducted on a very small scale as the majority of the trees in the planted area are young. The initial tappings of five-year old trees show that the yields of dry rubber per tree compare very favourably with the results obtained in the Straits Settlements, Malaya, and Ceylon. It is expected that in 1916 tapping operations will be commenced on an appreciable scale.

Tapping experiments carried out at the several experimental stations established by the Government have given very satisfactory results both as regards the yield of the trees and the cost of collecting the rubber.

Coffee.

53. The area reported to be under coffee was 4,326 acres. Of this 2,054 acres are situated in the Canal Polder area of West Demerara. The export of coffee during the year amounted to 2,132 cwts. as compared with 798 cwts. in 1913.

Coconuts.

54. Coconuts are planted on 15,894 acres of land, the acreage last year being 14,200. The export of nuts increased from 876 to 1,889 thousands, whilst, in addition, 1,690 cwts. of copra were exported. By far the greater number of the nuts grown are used locally for the manufacture of oil. There is a very wide area of land suitable for the planting of coconuts, on parts of which extension of such planting is being actively carried on. Under proper cultivation and drainage the yearly crop will be very largely increased in the near future.

Limes.

55. The cultivation of limes is not increasing; 690 acres are now occupied by this product. The erection of machinery at Plantation Providence, Berbice, and at Plantation Agatash, Essequibo, for the production of citrate of lime is giving this promising industry a much desired impetus. Over 11,000 lbs. of citrate were exported, its value being £1,166.

Cattle.

56. There are large areas of land suitable for the raising of cattle. The number in the Colony is estimated at 89,500, including 9,000 on the savannah region, but it is certain that this estimate is far below the actual figure. The value of 1,145 cattle exported was £8,000. Horses are returned at 1,010; sheep at 19,700; goats at 14,800; swine at 11,000; and donkeys at 6,000.

MANUFACTURES.

57. Sugar, rum, molasses, molascuit, rice, and rice-meal are the principal articles of manufacture exported. A certain quantity of leather and cacao is prepared for local consumption. Matches are made, and there is a large and well-equipped ice factory with cold-storage accommodation.

One of the three iron-work foundries has good accommodation for the docking and repairing of steamers of small size. There is also a Government dry dock, 160 feet long and 35 feet wide, in course of construction.

There are two well-equipped factories in Georgetown which manufacture boots and shoes of all descriptions for the local market. The larger is capable of turning out between 2,000 to 3,000 pairs per week, while the smaller can handle 500 pairs. Both establishments manufacture strong and serviceable footwear, which finds a ready sale with the great bulk of the people. The prices charged are very reasonable.

FISHERIES.

58. There is room for considerable development in several directions, especially in sea fishing, curing with the aid of ice, and smoking. A fair supply of sea fish is generally kept at the ice depôt, but ice is not generally used. In early times smoked or barbecued paku was got from the north-west in large quantities, but is now rarely seen. Salt cod, herrings, and mackerel are imported in quantity, but no Colony fishes are cured. Fresh-water fishes are obtainable in the markets, but not to the extent desired; in fact, the supply is precarious. Rarely can a particular kind be got to order. The angler may enjoy good sport with tarpon or cuffum as well as several other fish that are more grateful to the palate. The river fishing in the interior is exceptionally good. Fish glue or isinglass from the gilbaker was exported to the amount of 11,861 lbs., value £786 17s. 6d.

MINES.

59. *Gold.*—This industry was little affected by the European war which began in August 1914; there was a temporary stoppage in the shipment of gold from the Colony but matters soon returned to the normal with an increase in shipping charges and War Rate Insurance.

60. Sixty-four thousand nine hundred and eighty-two ounces of gold, the bulk obtained from placer washing, passed through the Department of Lands and Mines for the year, a decrease in the production of 1913-1914 of 17,724 ozs. This decrease was due to the desertion by the Pigeon Island placers of the Cuyuni River, which had attracted such a large number of diggers the previous year and from which source the yield decreased from 38,967 ozs. in 1913-1914 to 11,028 ozs. in 1914-1915. There was an increase of 12,392 ozs. in the production from the Kaburi Fields in the Mazaruni River.

61. The mill at the Peters Mine, Puruni River, was put about for a few days in March 1915 by the representative of a prospective purchasing company and 108½ ozs. of gold cleaned up which, however, was not brought down to Georgetown until after the close of this financial year. The Aremu Mine, Cuyuni River, and the Barima Mine in the Arakaka Creek on the right bank of the river, from which it takes its name remained closed down throughout the year.

62. Dredging operations were continued by the Guiana Gold Company in the Konawaruk Creek and by the Minnehaha Development Company in the Minnehaha and Mahdia Creeks in the Potaro district. The former operated four bucket dredges and produced 8,170 ozs. bullion, and the latter Company operated two dredges of a similar type and produced 4,438 ozs., a considerable increase on their last year's production.

No hydraulicking work was done.

63. *Diamonds*.—This industry was affected in the latter part of the year, most adversely by the war as the European market for diamonds ceased and there was in consequence no sale for the stones. The workings in the Mazaruni River had opened very briskly in April and good returns were obtained up to the time the adverse market conditions arose, but thereafter the larger Companies operating stopped work. The output, notwithstanding, was 100,522 stones, weighing 13,716½ carats, being an increase of 2,597 carats on the production in 1913-1914, and the largest production in one year. The stones average 7.32 to the carat and are an improvement in size on those won the previous year.

64. *Bauxite*.—Prospecting for this mineral was carried on in the upper Demerara River and deposits located and quarrying titles applied for which were still under consideration by the Government at the close of the year.

65. *Mineral Oil*.—Several Exploration Licences were issued but no work of a prospecting nature undertaken by the licensees, due to the difficulty in interesting capitalists owing to the financial stress resulting from the war, hence no discovery of oil was made.

66. The Mining Regulations were amended as from the 1st January, 1915. By these amendments the registration of mining labourers now has to be done by the Lands and Mines Department instead of the Institute of Mines and Forests and an increased rental and an alluvial working fee placed on diamond claims.

CROWN LANDS AND FORESTS.

67. Grants for agricultural purposes and 43 homesteads with an aggregate area of 1,099 English acres were issued during the year. Several leases for ninety-nine years, which is the form of title that will in the future be issued, were in addition applied for but not completed owing to the form of lease not having been definitely settled by the Government. Inspections by officers of the Lands and Mines Department, of tracts held under title from the Crown of less than 10 years duration, elicited the information that 6,388·65 English acres were under mixed cultivation.

68. The cultivation of Para rubber (*Hevea braziliensis*) was successfully continued at the Hills Estate, Mazaruni River, at Alikí on the Essequibo River and at the David Young's property now owned by the Consolidated Company and at Koriabo on the Aruka River. The growth and healthiness of the trees continued satisfactory.

69. The balata industry suffered severely from the effects of the war as there was no market for several months for this commodity. Bleeding operations were brought to a standstill in November 1914, but commenced again in February 1915 on the market showing signs of improvement.

One million, one hundred and forty-eight thousand, two hundred and ninety-five pounds of balata were exported by licencees during the year and 19,559 lbs. collected by Aboriginal Indians from off the Indian reservations and disposed of on their behalf by the Commissioner of Lands and Mines. The royalty collected on balata was £5,285 4s. 6½d.

70. Wood-cutting licences covering an area of 243,652·71 acres were issued and/or renewed during the year.

One hundred and seventy-six thousand, six hundred and sixty-eight cubic feet of timber of all kinds and 7,289,125 lbs. of charcoal were exported during the year. The royalty paid on articles from wood-cutting tracts was £2,561 19s. 8½d.

71. The Abary Plantation Company, Limited, continued the planting of rice on their tracts on the right bank Abary River, but owing to adverse weather conditions their efforts were not attended with as successful results as in previous years.

72. The grazing of cattle on the Rupununi Savannahs and by the Abary Cattle Ranch Company, Limited, on their tracts of leased land on the right bank of the Abary River was continued and the natural increase and the health of the stock were satisfactory.

73. New Crown Lands Regulations came into force on the 26th January, 1915, which provided for an increase on the royalty on timber and of the collection of extra royalty on charcoal when exported, both of which articles are well able to bear the increased charges. The registration of balata labourers was also brought under the Lands and Mines Department instead of being done by the Institute of Mines and Forests as hitherto.

SHIPPING.

74. There was an increase in the number of vessels which entered and cleared at the various ports in the Colony during the year ; 4,435 vessels with an aggregate of 1,039,582 tons, entered and cleared during 1914, as against 4,410 vessels with an aggregate of 921,385 tons in 1913.

75. The following table shows the nationality, number, description, and tonnage of the vessels which entered at the various custom houses of the Colony together with the percentage tonnage of each nationality to the total tonnage :—

Nationality.	Entered.						Per-centage of total tonnage entered.
	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.		
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
British	206	346,196	269	10,764	475	356,960	68·59
American	1	1,292	3	1,296	4	2,588	·50
French	34	24,038	—	—	34	24,038	4·62
Dutch	317	78,441	30	1,699	347	80,140	15·40
Norwegian	36	22,330	—	—	36	22,330	4·29
Swedish	2	2,584	—	—	2	2,584	·50
Danish	15	24,107	—	—	15	24,107	4·63
German	2	3,336	—	—	2	3,336	·64
Russian	—	—	8	2,808	8	2,808	·54
Venezuelan	—	—	1,336	1,525	1,336	1,525	·29
Total	613	502,324	1,646	18,092	2,259	520,416	100·00

76. Outward bound there was a total tonnage of steam vessels of 502,012 tons, against 443,555 tons in the previous year. Of sailing ships, 1,550, with an aggregate tonnage of 17,154, cleared against 1,659, aggregating 18,858 tons, in 1913.

LEGISLATION.

77. During the year 33 Ordinances were passed, two being in the nature of private Ordinances, the rest being public general Ordinances.

Bank Notes (No. 1).—This Ordinance is to provide a general banking law for the Colony and to regulate the issue of bank notes by banking corporations or companies. Under the Ordinance the right of issuing notes will be confined to existing banks authorised by Ordinance and to such banking companies or corporations as deposit security at par value for the amount issued. Notes must be of a minimum value of five dollars. The right of the Government to issue notes is not

interfered with. The Ordinance also enables the Royal Bank of Canada to issue notes on the same terms as the British Guiana Bank has hitherto done, subject to the matter being reconsidered after 10 years. As the Royal Bank of Canada has purchased the assets of the British Guiana Bank, the Ordinance provides for the repeal of the special Ordinance of the latter bank as from a date to be proclaimed by the Governor. It is probable that a further Ordinance will be advisable to regulate the terms on which bank notes in the Colony must be redeemed.

Co-operative Credit Banks (No. 9).—This Ordinance is to provide for the granting of State-aid to co-operative credit banks and for the proper supervision of the same by a central committee. The end aimed at is the promotion of thrift and united action among the agricultural population of the Colony and the furtherance of agricultural prosperity.

Foodstuffs (No. 22).—This Ordinance—an extraordinary one necessitated by extraordinary conditions, namely a state of war within the Empire—contains very stringent provisions as to the fixing of the price of food stuffs and supplies machinery for seeing that such prices are adhered to or not exceeded.

Trading with the Enemy (No. 26).—This Ordinance enacts for the Colony of British Guiana the provisions of the Trading with the Enemy Act, 1914, which received the sanction of His Majesty on the 18th September last, and which applies to the United Kingdom. The offence of trading with the enemy is now defined for the first time as a misdemeanour and much milder penalties than those imposed by the English Act of 1794, which expired in 1802 are prescribed.

Trade Mark (No. 27).—This Ordinance adopts the Trade Marks Act, 1905, of the Imperial Parliament, as there is at present no provision for the registration of trade marks in the Colony although trade marks registered in England are protected.

The most important feature of the year from the legal point of view was the appointment of a Statute Law Committee, with the Attorney-General as chairman, to carry into effect the recommendations of the Common Law Commission in regard to the abolition of Roman Dutch law in favour of English law and to recommend the English Statutes which should be adopted to effectuate the change.

The committee presented a unanimous report in July, 1915, and the scheme is now being dealt with by the Government.

EDUCATION.

78. The Primary Education Code based on the system of grants-in-aid for each child who passes in writing and arithmetic and sewing; in all the other subjects namely geography practical work in gardens, elementary hygiene, nature knowledge, singing, and drill, the pupils are examined by some of them being selected by the Inspector from

one or more classes or standards. These grants vary between 10*d.* and 4*s.* 2*d.* per head; there is also an attendance grant of 12*s.* 6*d.* for every 30 children presented for examination. Nine-tenths of the total grant earned must be paid to the teachers and assistant teachers, and those holding certificates are entitled, when in charge of a school, to pay at the rate of £50, £37 10*s.*, or £20 per annum, according as they hold a first, second, or third class certificate. In the code for 1914 drawing and manual occupations for all standards were added to the subjects of instruction, history for standards IV and VI, care and management of infants for girls above 11 years of age. The question of the training of teachers has proved to be of considerable difficulty, but there is every reason to hope that, in lieu of a local training college, the decision arrived at to send every year six students (three males and three females) selected by competitive examination from the pupil teachers to the Mico and Shortwood Training Colleges in Jamaica, respectively, will prove to be entirely satisfactory. Three batches of students, having completed their two years' course at these colleges, have returned to the Colony, the first in April, 1913, the second in January, 1914, and the third in January 1915. With two exceptions all of these students have been awarded certificates and are employed in aided schools.

79. The expenditure in grants-in-aid during the year was £31,871, and this sum was distributed among 228 schools, with an average daily attendance of 3,072, the number on the books being 36,820.

80. British Guiana is essentially an agricultural country, and the importance of sound agricultural training for its growth can hardly be over-estimated. There is a system of model gardens in the various districts of the Colony, under the direction and control of the Director of Science and Agriculture, and a good number of the Primary Schools have gardens attached to them. Something more is, however, wanted, and the combined Court have approved of the establishment of an Agricultural School in the Colony on the same lines and principles as those on which such schools have been established by the Imperial Department of Agriculture in Dominica, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent.

81. Secondary education is provided for, in the case of girls, mainly by private enterprise. Boys are provided for at Queen's College, which is maintained by Government, and at two or three private schools. The staff at Queen's College is mainly recruited from graduates in honours of Oxford or Cambridge. The Science Department is in charge of the Director of Science and Agriculture, with an Assistant Demonstrator.

82. There is a system of scholarships under which pupils from the primary schools can pass on to the secondary schools; these scholarships are open to both boys and girls. A Guiana scholarship of the value of £600 and extending over three, four, or five years, is awarded every year on the result of an examination by the Cambridge Syndicate.

83. Georgetown is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations and those of the College of Preceptors. The matriculation and other ordinary degree examinations of the University of London may also be taken in the Colony.

84. Out of 194 candidates examined from the Colony at the last Cambridge Local Examination, 111 passed.

85. The honours and distinctions gained were 30 and 23 respectively.

INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

86. The instruction and training of vagrant boys and youthful male offenders is provided for by the Government Industrial School Ordinance No. 8 of 1907. The Government Industrial School at Onderneeming, which is governed by the Ordinance, has accommodation for 160 boys. The number of inmates on the 31st March, 1915, was 114, while the daily average during the year was 111.9. The net cost per head was £15 8s. 11d.

87. The large majority of inmates are trained in agriculture, the institution being worked as a farm school and possessing 100 acres of land in cultivation with coffee, cacao, rubber, limes, nutmeg and fruit trees. A small number of the boys are also trained as carpenters, tailors, and bakers.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

88. The hospitals and asylums of the Colony were maintained during the year in their usual efficient condition. The total expenditure on the Medical Department, including the Bacteriological Department, Quarantine Services, vaccination, and medical examinations under the Coroners Ordinance, was £68,543. Of this, £40,659 were for salaries, including the salaries of the dispensers attached to the various prisons, the Industrial School at Onderneeming, and the Alms House.

89. There are five public hospitals in the principal centres of population and the outlying districts are served by dispensary hospitals and dispensaries. The immigration law also requires the maintenance of hospitals on every plantation on which there are indentured East Indian labourers, and those institutions are available for the treatment of emergency and pauper cases from the general community.

90. There were 529 patients in the public hospitals at the beginning of the year and 11,692 were admitted during the year. The daily average was 484. There were 1,431 deaths. In addition to those admitted to hospital, out-door treatment was given to 39,357 persons.

91. The daily average of inmates in the Lunatic Asylum was 770. Of this 466 were males and 304 females; 77 were discharged cured and 6 died.

92. At the Leper Asylum there were 383 patients when the year began, 263 males and 120 females. During the year 88 were admitted.

POOR HOUSE.

93. There is only one Poor House for the Colony and this is situated in Georgetown. The daily average number of inmates during the

year was 735, against 775 in the previous year ; £8,245 were expended in maintenance and there was in addition an outlay of £5,640 on outdoor relief. Included in this category were some 50 school children who were given a meal each daily.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

94. There is only one Savings Bank under Government control, managed by the Post Office.

95. The Post Office conducted savings bank business at 49 offices. The amount at credit of depositors on 31st December, 1914, was £227,409 (inclusive of £413 due to depositors for unclaimed balances), or £19,379 less than in 1913. The number of accounts decreased from 30,236 to 30,216. Against the amount due to depositors, investments to the value of £248,185 were held, the market value of which on 31st December, 1914, had depreciated, however, to the extent of £29,750. Of the total on deposit, East Indians (indentured and unindentured) were responsible for £104,714 ; Portuguese, £21,450 ; Chinese, £3,950 ; and others, £96,881.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

96. There were 3,616 persons committed to prison during the year, being 526 less than in the previous year ; of the total 3,141 were males and 475 females. For purpose of penal imprisonment 3,184 persons were received into the prisons, as against 3,228 in 1913–1914. The daily average in prison was 485·64, as compared with 453·03 in 1913–1914. The total number in custody on 31st March, 1915, was 491, as against 489 in the preceding year.

97. There were two deaths among prisoners during the year ; 18 were subject to corporal punishment, and there was one execution.

98. The total expenditure for the prison administration was £12,708 12s. 6½d.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

99. The criminal statistical return this year shows a decrease of 322 cases less than the number reported last year.

The principal heads of decrease are :—

- Offences against the person.
- Unlawful possession.
- Disorderly conduct.
- Vagrancy.
- Minor offences.

100. There was a large increase of praedial larceny, 173 cases being reported as against 63 cases in 1913-1914.

101. As the result of a crusade against the inhumanity of owners and drivers, there were 74 more cases for cruelty to animals than in the previous year.

102. There was also an increase in "Larceny and similar offences," but the value of the property involved showed a large decrease.

103. The number of persons prosecuted by the Detective Department shows a large increase over previous years, the figures being as follows:—

Year.	Prosecuted.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Withdrawn.
1911-1912 ..	220	133	35	52
1912-1913 ..	259	179	39	41
1913-1914 ..	311	206	50	55
1914-1915 ..	436	336	56	44

104. There was no "hooliganism" during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

105. The birth and death rates appearing on this report have been calculated on the Registrar General's estimate of population of the Colony at 31st December, 1914, which was 309,938, or 161,417 males and 148,521 females.

106. There were 10,662 births registered during the year or 147 more than in 1913, when there were 10,515 births registered.

107. The birth-rate was 34·4 per 1,000 of the estimated population for 1914, as compared with 34·6 per 1,000 for 1913, and 33·1 in the year previous. The mean rate for the previous five years was 30·7 per 1,000.

108. The birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of each of the several races representing the community is as follows:—

<i>Races.</i>				
Europeans other than Portuguese	..	12·8	} 23·3	
Portuguese .. .. .	..	27·4		
East Indians .. .. .	..	35·2		
Chinese .. .. .	..	31·0		
Blacks .. .. .	..	33·7		
Mixed Races .. .. .	..	35·0		

109. Of the births registered 4,250 or 39·9 per cent. were legitimate, and 6,412 or 60·1 per cent. illegitimate.

110. The deaths registered were 7,586 or 216 more than in the previous year, when 7,370 or 1,357 less than in 1912 were registered. The death-rate was 24·5 per 1,000 of the estimated population as against 24·2, the death-rate in 1913, and 29·2 that in 1912. The mean rate for the previous five years was 30·0 per 1,000.

111. The death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of each of the various races is as follows :—

<i>Races.</i>						
Europeans other than Portuguese	..	12.2	}	28.3		
Portuguese	.. .. .	34.6			
East Indians	.. .. .	25.3			
Chinese	.. .. .	28.6			
Blacks	.. .. .	32.6			
Mixed Races	.. .. .	20.9			

112. *Infantile Mortality.*—The number of deaths of children under one year of age has shown a further slight decrease this year, the figures being 1,811 deaths, or 170 per 1,000 births. for 1914, as compared with 1,885, or 179 per 1,000 births. for 1913. and 1,879, or 190 per 1,000 births, for 1912.

113. The mean rate for the previous five years was 205 per 1,000 births.

114. The following table shows the proportions of the deaths of the children under one year of age of each race to every 1,000 births of each such race for the year under review :—

<i>Races.</i>					
Europeans other than Portuguese	..	60	} 206		
Portuguese	.. .. .	232			
East Indians	.. .. .	168			
Chinese	.. .. .	116			
Blacks	.. .. .	180			
Mixed Races	.. .. .	145			

PUBLIC HEALTH.

115. The six principal causes of death throughout the Colony during the past five years are given by the Registrar General of Births and Deaths as follows :—

Malarial and other fevers, 16.4 per cent. ; bronchitis and pneumonia, 12.6 per cent. ; bowel complaints (including dysentery, diarrhoea, and enteritis), 11.3 per cent. ; kidney diseases, 8.2 per cent. ; phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis, 6.9 per cent. ; and diseases of early infancy (including infantile debility, icterus, and sclerema), 7.2 per cent.

116. Enteric fever is a notifiable disease. During 1914, 262 cases were notified, with 100 deaths.

117. Anti-malaria and anti-mosquito measures are being generally and gradually enforced, with visible signs of success. In 1906–1907, 33,748 cases of malarial fever were treated in the sugar estates' hospitals ; at the end of 1914–1915 the numbers have fallen to 8,421. Quinine has been for some years sold at all Post Offices to the general public at cost price. It is also distributed at the sugar estates free to their labourers. Prisoners, members of the police force, the inmates of the industrial school at Onderneeming and the orphan asylum, and the attendants at the public institutions are also supplied by the Colony with free quinine. Administration of quinine to school children is now adopted in 106 schools out of 227.

118. Ankylostomiasis, which has engaged the attention of the Medical Department for several years, has considerably decreased on the sugar estates: this is attributed to improved sanitary measures and the erection of latrines. The International Health Commission, Rockefeller Foundation, has carried out an active campaign against this disease in the villages.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

119. The revenue collected by the Post Office was £32,147, as against £33,659 in the previous year. The number of articles posted is estimated at 417,378 less than in 1913-1914; 389,506 less letters were dealt with, postcards were less by 15,314, and printed matter 12,558 less.

120. The business done in inland money orders shows a slight decrease. The orders dealt with number 73,352, of the value of £110,734, as against 74,641, of the value of £117,076, in the previous year.

121. Foreign money orders were issued to the value of £21,338, while orders were cashed to the extent of £15,940. British postal orders were sold to the value of £3,682 and local orders £7,451.

122. The inland and foreign parcel post services show an increase in the former and a decrease in the latter on the previous year, the parcels handled being 15,816 and 15,306, as against 15,362 and 18,833, respectively, in 1912-1913.

123. The number of local telegrams received for transmission was 67,768, against 69,545 in the previous year.

OCEAN COMMUNICATION.

124. A contract has been entered into between the Imperial Government and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for a fortnightly mail service with the West Indies. For the conveyance of mails by this service the Colony pays £3,000 per annum.

125. Under a contract between British Guiana and certain of the West Indian Islands and the Royal Mail Company, a regular fortnightly connexion with the service referred to in the preceding paragraph is maintained. The Colony's share of the subsidy for this service is £5,000 per annum.

126. Mails are also received and despatched by boats of the *Compagnie Générale Transatlantique*, the *Koninklijke West Indische Mail Dienst*, the *East Asiatic Company*, the *Quebec Steamship Company*, *Direct Line*, *London, Liverpool Line*, *Dutch Government boats*, *Sproston's Surinam Service*, the *Trinidad Shipping and Trading Company, Limited*, *Seeberg Line*, and *Royal Mail Steam Packet Company—Canadian Service*.

MILITARY FORCES.

127. The police force is recruited from the general population and officered by Europeans. "A" and "B" Companies of the *Volunteers* were disbanded in 1914 and the 1st and 2nd *Infantry Companies of the Militia* replaced them. Contingents from the police and artillery and infantry companies of *Militia* proceeded to England to join the *West Indian Contingent* for the war.

128. The expenditure on the *Militia* amounted to £4,173 16s. 4d., besides which there was a special war expenditure of £9,276 0s. 10d.

IMMIGRATION.

129. The number of *East Indian immigrants* introduced during the year was 807 souls, equal to 752 adults, being 535 souls less than the number in the previous year, the decrease being due to the temporary stoppage of immigration owing to the war.

130. The Commissioners appointed in 1913 by the *Indian Government* to inspect and report on the condition of *East Indian immigrants* in this and other Colonies completed their tour of inspection at the end of the year. The full report of their proceedings has now been received and is being considered.

131. The number who returned to India was 742 souls, equal to 690 adults. The savings remitted by them amounted to £9,245 and the estimated value of the jewellery they took with them was £1,540.

132. There were some 16,203 cattle owned by *East Indians* on estates, besides 4,066 sheep and goats. The value of the real property owned by them is returned at £215,699, of which £13,628 worth passed into their hands during the year of report. The property acquired by *Chinese immigrants* during the same period was £6,236.

CLIMATE.

133. The total rainfall for the calendar year 1914 at the Botanic Gardens, Georgetown, was 69·49 inches.

134. The rainfall during the last seven years has been as follows :—

	Inches.
1908	89·74
1909	107·95
1910	101·46
1911	87·89
1912	69·87
1913	90·42
1914	69·49

135. *Barometer.*—The mean pressure for the year at 7 a.m. was 29·962 inches, at 1 p.m. 29·943, and at 6 p.m. 29·926, the mean of the three readings being 29·944.

136. *Temperature.*—The average maximum temperature in the shade was 85·0 deg. Fahr., and the average minimum was 75·1 deg. Fahr. The absolute maximum shade temperature recorded was 89·0 deg. Fahr. on October 18th and 25th, and the absolute minimum shade temperature 70·0 deg. Fahr. on January 24th and 28th. The mean shade temperature for the year was 80·0 deg. Fahr. The mean maximum in the sun was 147·4 deg. Fahr., whilst the highest temperature in the sun 161·0 deg. Fahr. was on January 16th and the lowest on grass at night was 67·0 deg. Fahr. on January 24th.

137. *Sunshine.*—The total amount of bright sunshine that was recorded during the year was 2,655·6 hours, being 252 hours more than the previous year and 283·8 hours more than the average.

GOVERNMENT STEAMER SERVICE.

138. The following services which, until June 1st, 1914, had been performed by contractors, receiving a subsidy from Government of £7,708 6s. 8d., are now maintained by a fleet of six Government steamers :—

From Parika to Suddie	—daily except Sundays—	23 $\frac{3}{4}$	Nautical miles.
„ Parika to Bartika—	„ „ „	—36	„ „
„ Parika to Leguan—	„ including „	—3 $\frac{1}{2}$	„ „
Demerara River Ferry	„		
(Georgetown to Vreed-en-Hoop)	„ „	— $\frac{1}{2}$	„ „
Berbice River Ferry	—daily		
(Rosignol to New Amsterdam)	„ „	—1 $\frac{3}{4}$	„ „

139. On the expiry of the contract the contractors' permit to run a ferry between Georgetown and Pouderoyen, which they held as contractors for the main ferry, was withdrawn and the service has been continued by the Government.

140. For use in connexion with the Government steamers a graving dock has been constructed at His Majesty's Penal Settlement, Mazaruni, having been first completed for use in February, 1915.

141. The amount expended to March 31st, 1915, in establishing the service, including the building of the dry dock, was £59,921 11s. 0½d. made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Steamers and ancillary works and contingent expenses	55,960	2	9½
Dock	2,515	10	0
Pouderoyen Ferry	1,445	18	3
	£59,921	11	0½

142. For the nine months ending 31st March, 1915, the receipts were:—

	£	s.	d.
Passenger	5,862	18	5
Goods	2,022	9	6
Total	*£7,885	7	11

And if to this be added the subsidy previously paid contractors, the total becomes £15,593 14s. 7d.

143. The expenditure for the same period was, including charge for interest (amounting to £1,458 6s. 8d.), depreciation, and contribution to Insurance Fund, £11,967 15s. 11d.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

	£
144. The revenue for the year under review fell short of the Estimate by	3,842
The Colony's gift of sugar and rice to the Mother Country cost	20,637
while special war expenditure to 31st March, 1915 amounted to	12,536
These items and other minor ones would have increased the deficit on the year's working to	61,750
but for it having been found possible to effect savings to the extent of	26,323
diminishing the actual deficit to	35,427
which, however, absorbed all but	51,237
of our accumulated credit balance of	86,665
on 31st March, 1914.	

*In addition to this figure, £533 15s. 0d. was earned by one of the steamers acting as guardship of the port of Georgetown during the mobilization of the Local Forces.

145. The Imperial Government generously came to our assistance with a promise of financial aid to meet all expenditure to which the Colony was already pledged until 30th June, 1916. Of the total sum of £207,000 so guaranteed £137,000 had been advanced at 31st March, 1915.

146. A committee appointed in April to consider the question of the proposed hinterland railway approved generally of the Governor's proposals and of the raising of a loan of £2,000,000 for the construction of the railway and for a general colonization and development scheme in connexion therewith. Soon afterwards was received the Secretary of State's reply to the Governor's proposals in which Mr. Harcourt declared himself unable to accept the scheme or to ask the Imperial Parliament for a loan without further details and more satisfactory proof that the railway was likely to become self-supporting. The outbreak of the great European War put a stop to further consideration of the matter for an indefinite period.

147. Simultaneously with the starting of the Government steamer services the extension of the West Coast Railway from Greenwich Park to Parika, a distance of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, was opened. This extension, coupled with the cheap ferry, has resulted in a material increase in the receipts of the West Coast line and a corresponding surplus over working expenses. That the combined smooth water route *via* Parika rendered possible by this extension has proved popular is shown by the fact that although the competing company reduced the fare by sea route to one shilling yet 75 per cent. of the passengers carried preferred to pay double the all-sea route fare in order to travel by train.

148. On the 5th August, 1914, the Governor received a cable from the Secretary of State notifying His Excellency that war had broken out with Germany. On the 13th of the same month a similar notification was received that war had broken out with Austria-Hungary, and on the 5th November following a further cable was received notifying the Governor that as from that date war had broken out between Great Britain and Turkey.

149. The Colony's Local Forces were mobilized on the outbreak of war, and police, militia, artillery, and infantry were made ready to repel any attack. Fortunately, no attack came, thanks to the constant watchfulness kept over these coasts by the British fleet.

150. In response to a notice issued by the Governor intimating that he had been authorised by the home authorities to select suitable candidates for commissions in Lord Kitchener's army for the duration of the war several gentlemen came forward and offered their services. Thirteen of these who were nominated by the Governor up to 31st March, received commissions while certain others paid their own passages and left the Colony with the intention of offering their services direct to the war authorities.

151. On the 7th September, 1914, the Colony presented 1,000 tons of sugar to His Majesty's Government for the use of the British troops at the front, and on the 16th November following presented a further gift of 500,000 lbs. of rice grown in the Colony for the use of the British East Indian troops serving at the front, the value of the combined gifts being £20,637. Other gifts, including cash to the amount of £16,000, were transmitted by the people of the Colony to various funds in England.

152. The improvement in the public health of the Colony noted in last year's report was maintained. The results of the campaign against ankylostomiasis started on the east bank of the Demerara river under the control of the officers of the Rockefeller Commission exceeded expectations and have already established that with proper measures the disease can be driven out of the Colony. Invaluable work was also done by the Baby Saving League, a scheme inaugurated by Lady Egerton to instruct mothers in the rearing and care of their infants. Branches of the League have been started in various country centres and the work being done by the League has already shown definite results.

GEO. D. BAYLEY,

Assistant Government Secretary.

5th November, 1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
840	East Africa Protectorate	1913-1914
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	1914-1915
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1914
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	1914-1915
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
BY BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

1916.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.



No. 875.

MAURITIUS.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 826.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

February, 1916.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

PRINTED IN MAURITIUS.

[Cd. 8172-1] Price 3d.

Dup. U. of G.
L B

Digitized by Google

CONTENTS.

I.	FINANCIAL	1
II.	TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	8
III.	LEGISLATION	18
IV.	EDUCATION	20
V.	GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	23
VI.	JUDICIAL STATISTICS	24
VII.	VITAL STATISTICS	28
VIII.	METEOROLOGICAL	29
IX.	POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES	30
X.	RAILWAYS	31
XI.	PUBLIC WORKS	33
XII.	FORESTS	34
XIII.	DEPENDENCIES	35

MAP.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

REPORT ON THE MAURITIUS BLUE BOOK
FOR 1914.

I.—FINANCIAL.

GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The revenue for the year 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 11,142,611, being Rs. 872,161 above the estimate and Rs. 697,518 above the average for the five years immediately preceding.

The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue from normal sources collected during the financial years 1912-13 and 1913-14 :

Head of Revenue.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Customs	4,024,768	4,202,476	177,708	...
2. Harbour	224,615	208,883	...	15,732
3. Licenses, Excise, &c. ...	2,753,694	2,789,440	35,746	...
4. Fees of Court, &c. ...	340,121	369,873	29,752	...
5. Post and Telegraphs ...	224,360	228,765	4,405	...
6. Railways	2,480,554	2,691,430	210,876	...
7. Rent	69,368	74,170	4,802	...
8. Interest	865,241	536,900	...	328,341
9. Miscellaneous	52,139	40,071	...	12,068
	11,034,860	11,142,008	463,289	356,141
10. Land Sales	781	603	...	178
Total	11,035,641	11,142,611	463,289	356,319
Net increase of normal revenue	...	...	106,970	...

The revenue of 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 11,035,641 and exceeded that of any previous year. The revenue of 1913-14 showed a still further increase of Rs. 106,970 notwithstanding a decrease of Rs. 328,341 in the collections under "Interest" due to the repayment of the mechanical transport loan having been completed.

The sources which principally contributed to the total increase in revenue over the previous year were : Customs, Rs. 177,708 ; Licenses, Excise, Rs. 35,746 ; Fees of Court, Rs. 29,752 ; Railways, Rs. 210,876. Import and Export duties yielded Rs. 81,023 and Rs. 96,686 more respectively than in the previous year. The receipts from the main lines of Railway showed increases of

Rs. 53,631 in passenger traffic and Rs. 186,154 in goods traffic. The total receipts of the Railways reached Rs. 2,691,430, which is the highest amount encashed in any one year.

As has already been stated, the decrease in revenue under the head of "Interest" was due to the completion, previous to the 30th. of June, 1913, of the repayment of the Mechanical Transport Loan (1903), with the exception of the sum of Rs. 13,811, which is shown as collected in the financial year under review.

There was on the 30th. of June 1913 a surplus balance of Rs. 3,693,944. The revenue for the year 1913-14 exceeded the expenditure by Rs. 926,141 bringing up the surplus balance at the 30th. of June 1914 to Rs. 4,620,085. This surplus after deducting Rs. 3,689,173 advanced for the re-equipment of the Railway and Rs. 90,719 for Irrigation Works was reduced to Rs. 840,193. The accounts for the first half of the current financial year show that the revenue amounted to Rs. 6,244,962 and the expenditure to Rs. 7,002,896. It should however be observed that there was credited to Revenue the sum of approximately Rs. 500,000 in respect of the unallocated stores of the Railway Department at the opening of the financial year and that there is included in the total expenditure the sum of Rs. 1,500,000 which had been expended on the re-equipment of the Railway and which has been finally charged to surplus balances. The amount which has been advanced for Railway Re-equipment and which is eventually to be met from Loan Funds has been correspondingly reduced and stood at Rs. 2,306,807 on 31st. December 1914. At the same date the advances made for Irrigation Works amounted to Rs. 417,204 leaving a surplus balance of Rs. 1,138,140.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 10,216,470 or Rs. 223,116 above the estimate and Rs. 470,761 above the average for the preceding 5 years. The following are the principal heads under which the expenditure exceeded the original estimate: Public Works Extraordinary, Rs. 182,143; Medical and Health, Rs. 156,917; Miscellaneous, Rs. 43,213; Pensions, Rs. 24,920; Military Expenditure, Rs. 24,278; Agriculture, Rs. 23,671. The items which chiefly contributed to the excess under Public Works Extraordinary were the acquisition of a Rum Warehouse and alterations to the building, the purchase of a site for and the construction of part of the buildings of the Victoria Hospital at Candos, and the carrying out, more rapidly than had originally been intended, of the improvement of the shed accommodation at the Customs Department. The heavy expenditure of the Medical Department was due chiefly to an epidemic of small pox. The expenditure was less than the estimate

by appreciable amounts under Immigration, Rs. 63,700 ; Police, Rs. 61,846 ; Law and Justice, Rs. 35,033 ; Prisons, Rs. 27,166.

The following is a comparative statement of the Expenditure for the years 1912-13 and 1913-14 :—

HEAD OF SERVICE.	1912-13.	1913-14.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Charge on account of Public Debt	1,266,963	950,166	.....	316,797
2. Pensions	693,293	735,756	42,463	.....
3. Governor and Legislature	69,065	67,079	.....	1,986
4. Colonial Secretariat	90,595	89,312	.....	1,283
5. Treasury	181,326	171,686	.....	9,640
6. Audit	50,471	44,270	.....	6,201
7. Customs	108,150	116,097	7,947	.....
8. Port and Marine	133,656	133,370	.....	286
9. Observatory	15,593	15,741	148	.....
10. Public Library and Museum	8,086	9,874	1,788	.....
11. Registrar General	64,632	59,015	.....	5,617
12. Archives	7,381	12,120	4,739	.....
13. Law and Justice	381,528	369,455	.....	12,073
14. Ecclesiastical	152,636	152,636	.....	.....
15. Police	527,107	492,938	.....	34,169
16. Prisons and Reformatory	160,857	146,388	.....	14,469
17. Medical and Health and Quarantine	966,174	1,075,883	109,709	.....
18. Education	594,414	625,419	31,005	.....
19. Immigration and Poor Relief	283,638	259,102	.....	24,536
20. Dependencies	57,638	57,538	.....	100
21. Military Expenditure	467,504	492,060	24,556	.....
22. Miscellaneous	665,850	612,559	.....	53,291
23. Post and Telegraphs	171,118	167,374	.....	3,744
24. Forests	178,229	177,382	.....	847
25. Agriculture	35,012	103,539	68,527	.....
26. Railways	1,889,347	1,778,515	.....	110,832
27. Public Works Department	115,576	110,508	.....	5,068
28. Public Works Recurrent	498,003	517,970	19,967	.....
29. Public Works Extraordinary	391,835	662,843	271,008	.....
30. Loan Commission	9,928	9,875	.....	53
Total	10,235,605	10,216,470	581,857	600,992
Net Decrease ... ..	.....	.....	.....	19,135

The total expenditure for the year 1913-14 was less than the expenditure for the year 1912-13 by Rs. 19,135. The principal heads under which the expenditure in 1913-14 was greater were : Public Works Recurrent and Extraordinary, Rs. 290,975 ; Medical

and Health, Rs. 109,702; Agriculture, Rs. 68,527; Pensions, Rs. 42,463; Education, Rs. 31,005; Military Contribution, Rs. 24,556. The extraordinary works on which the largest expenditure was incurred were: Anti-Malarial Works of a permanent character, Rs. 118,239; Royal College, Rs. 83,177; Reconstruction of Bridges, Rs. 68,515; Rum Warehouse, Rs. 63,887; Drainage of Port Louis, Rs. 59,324; Victoria Hospital, Rs. 54,910; Improvement of Customs Shed accommodation and quays, Rs. 47,962; Renewal and relaying of moorings in Port Louis Harbour, Rs. 27,665.

The principal heads under which the expenditure in 1913-14 was less than in 1912-13 were: Public Debt, Rs. 316,797; Railways, Rs. 110,832; Miscellaneous, Rs. 53,291; Police, Rs. 34,169; Immigration and Poor Relief, 24,536.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony on 30th. of June 1914 were Rs. 2,989,641 and the liabilities Rs. 2,149,448, the assets thus exceeding the liabilities by Rs. 840,193.

The assets included :	Rs.
Cash in hands of the Receiver General and sub-accountants	454,600
Investments at cost	688,200
Temporary investments at Bank rate—£78,000 at 1s. 4d.	1,170,000
Miscellaneous advances	544,677
Co-operative Credit Societies	37,550
Unallocated Stores Mauritius Railways	94,615
The liabilities were :—	
General Deposits	2,028,282
Government of India	88,378
Drafts and Remittances... ..	32,741
Loan Funds, unexpended	47

There was brought to account up to the 30th June 1914 expenditure amounting to Rs. 3 689,173 on Railway re-equipment, and Rs. 90,719 on Irrigation Works.

Public Debt.

The total indebtedness of the Colony on the 30th. of June 1914 was £1,279,990 and the Sinking Funds amounted to £354,334, leaving a net debt of £925,656 as against £957,441 on 30th. June 1913, as compared with a debt of £1,147,409 and a revenue of £471,172 in 1894.

Under Ordinances No. 10 of 1876, No. 1 of 1879 and No. 2 of 1887, outstanding debentures are redeemed by annual drawings. Provision is made for the repayment of other loans by means of a sinking fund.

The Railway (Improvement) Loan Ordinance, 1910, authorizes the raising of a loan of £270,000 for the improvement and re-equipment of the Railways and the Irrigation Works Loan Ordinance, 1914, authorizes the raising of a loan of £100,000 to meet the cost of certain Irrigation Works. These loans have not yet been raised, and it is proposed to reduce the amount of the Railway Loan to £170,000, £100,000 of the expenditure already incurred on Railway re-equipment having been finally charged to the General Revenue and Surplus Balances of the Colony.

Currency and Banking.

The Currency of the Colony consists of :—

- (1) The following Mauritius bronze and silver coins which are legal tender up to Rs. 5 :
 - (a) Bronze : 1 cent, 2 cents, 5 cents.
 - (b) Silver : 10 cents, 20 cents.
- (2) The silver Rupee of India with its silver subdivisions.
- (3) Mauritius Government notes of Rs. 50, Rs. 10 and Rs. 5.

The average value of Currency notes in circulation during the year 1913-14 was Rs. 4,613,583 as compared with Rs. 5,080,250 in 1912-13. The average amount of specie held amounted to Rs. 2,075,333 as compared with Rs. 2,651,000 in 1912-13. The Investment and Depreciation Funds on 30th. June 1914 amounted to Rs. 2,538,250 and Rs. 386,602 respectively.

The Banks which do business in the Colony are the Bank of Mauritius Limited and the Mauritius Commercial Bank.

MUNICIPALITY OF PORT LOUIS.

The following is a comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Municipality of Port Louis for the five years 1910 to 1914 :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
—	—	—
	Rs.	Rs.
1910	523,494	504,058
1911	510,285	498,614
1912	515,504	509,944
1913	529,332	535,447
1914	501,790	468,769

The indebtedness of the Municipality up to the end of the year and the provision for payment are shown below :—

Loan.	Amount.	Repayments to be made in 1915.
Conversion Loan... ..	£ 104,400	£ 2,500
Electric Lighting Loan ...	7,000	333
Municipality Loan, 1908	3,143	143
Municipality Loan, 1909	4,107	179
	<u>£ 118,650</u>	<u>£ 3,155</u>
Government Hurricane Loan, 1892... ..	Rs. 26,645	Rs 8,536
Manure Factory and Night Soil		
Service Loan	4,000	2,000
Municipality Loan, 1903	8,000	2,000
	<u>Rs. 38,645</u>	<u>Rs. 12,536</u>

LOCAL BOARDS.

There are Boards of Commissioners for the towns of Curepipe, Beau Bassin and Rose Hill, and Quatre Bornes, which are entrusted with the general improvement and conservancy of these towns. By Ordinance No. 4 of 1913, the Board of Curepipe has been entrusted with the powers and duties, sanitary control excepted, of the Health Department in respect of Slaughter Houses, Public Markets and Butchers' Shops.

The Board of Curepipe receives the amount of taxes on vehicles and animals collected in the town and of licenses paid by traders and others. The Board may also levy a tax not exceeding one per cent. on house property and a tax on every tenant of any house, building or property. The two other Boards receive the amount of the taxes paid on vehicles and animals in the towns and may also levy a similar tax on house property.

The following tables show the revenue and expenditure of the Boards for the past five financial years :—

Curepipe.

	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue ...	90,966	68,510	73,136	74,883	86,718
Expenditure ..	85,360	72,008	76,420	71,148	85,198

Beau Bassin and Rose Hill.

	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue ...	35,804	36,996	34,811	37,959	36,732
Expenditure ...	34,639	36,651	36,507	37,921	36,708

Quatre Bornes

	1909- 0.	1910-11.	1911-12.	1912- 3	1913-14.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
Revenue ...	12,513	12,748	13,374	13 216	12,659
Expenditure ...	12,615	11,096	11,720	14,152	12,519

Below will be found a statement of the debts of the Boards :—

Curepipe	Net amount of Debt	Rs. 37,500
Beau Bassin and Rose Hill	„	Rs. 1,100
Quatre Bornes	„	Nil

There is a District Board for each of the eight rural districts of the Island. To them is entrusted under Ordinance No. 9 of 1900 the maintenance of the branch roads..

They receive as revenue a contribution from Government equivalent to 10 % of the direct taxes collected in each district during the year and an addition of 10 % to the direct taxes to be levied in each year in each district, exclusive of Port Louis and the Townships. The additional 10 % to be levied on the direct taxes may be increased to 25% subject to the approval of the Governor in Executive Council. The Government contribution amounted in 1913-14 to Rs. 12,085.

The powers of the District Boards were extended by Ordinance No. 35 of 1902 to include the construction, maintenance and management of water works. For this purpose they receive an annual contribution from Government, which in 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 76,000, and also the proceeds of water rates and of charges paid for water supplies.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The Customs returns for the year shew the aggregate value of of Imports and Exports, excluding specie, for the year 1914 to be Rs. 95,199,269 or Rs. 27,042,860 above the figure for the previous year. This increase appears under Exports and is due to the rise in the value of sugar exported during the last half of the year 1914 as compared with the year 1913 and to the larger quantity available for export.

The aggregate value of Imports and Exports, excluding specie, for the years 1910 to 1914, was as follows :—

Year	Imports.	Exports.	Total
1910	Rs. 35,014,664	Rs. 36,528,536	Rs. 71,543,200
1911	37,440,332	40,414,328	77,854,660
1912	32,002,440	36,893,269	68,895,709
1913	35,864,703	32,291,706	68,156,409
1914	35,674,864	59,524,405	95,199,269

The value of Imports from, and Exports to the United Kingdom, British Possessions and Foreign Countries during the same years is shown below (specie is not included) :—

Year.	Imports from (Unit Rs. 1,000)			Exports to (Unit Rs. 1,000)		
	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.
1910	11,282	16,225	7,506	8,267	27,863	397
1911	11,995	18,130	7,313	13,397	22,170	4,846
1912	11,504	14,117	6,352	4,467	32,038	389
1913	12,149	15,599	8,117	5,955	24,886	1,450
1914	11,818	16,716	7,140	32,116	26,270	1,138

The following tables show the percentage of Imports from, and Exports to, the United Kingdom, British Possessions and Foreign Countries during each of the last five years :—

Imports.

From	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
United Kingdom ...	32.2	32.1	36.0	33.9	33.1
British Possessions ...	46.4	48.4	44.1	43.5	16.9
Foreign Countries ...	21.4	19.5	19.9	22.6	20.0

Exports.

To	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
United Kingdom ...	22.6	33.1	12.2	18.4	51.0
British Possessions ...	76.3	54.9	86.8	77.1	44.1
Foreign Countries ...	1.1	12.0	1.0	4.5	1.9

There is a marked increase in the export trade with the United Kingdom, due to the purchase by His Majesty's Government of 161,000 tons of crystal sugar, of which 123,000 tons had been cleared up to the 31st. December.

Owing to the war there is a falling off in the trade with Foreign Countries, there being reductions both under Imports and Exports. The value of the trade with India shows a rise as compared with the previous year, and the trade of the Colony with India and the United Kingdom represents more than 85 per cent. of the aggregate Export and Import trade of the Colony.

The Customs Revenue shows an increase of Rs. 84,000 as compared with 1913. The chief articles contributing to the Revenue from Imports in 1914 were :—

Tobacco and Cigars ...	Rs. 850,000
Grain (including rice, dholl, etc) ...	565,000
Cotton Manufactures ...	150,000
Wines ...	150,000
Oils ...	166,000
Spirits ...	130,000
Matches... ..	129,000

The export duty on sugar yielded Rs. 865,000.

Imports.

Specie to the value of Rs. 2,285,075 was imported in 1914 as compared with Rs. 395,538 in 1913. The value of the imports, exclusive of specie, in 1914 was practically the same as in the previous year.

The largest increases as compared with 1913 occur under the following heads :—

Corn, Grain &c.,	...	...	...	Rs. 1,580,000
Bags and Pockets	...	...	...	785,000
Soap	...	...	...	125,000
Edible Oils.....	...	...	...	100,000

The largest decreases occur under the following heads :—

Coal	...	...	...	Rs. 1,355,000
Manures and Fertilizers	...	...	...	675,000
Machinery for Local Industries	...	...	...	380,000
Haberdashery...	...	...	...	330,000
Hardware and Cutlery	...	...	...	200,000

The imports of rice, which is the chief article of food of the majority of the population, was 62,700 tons (metric), as compared with 63,600 tons in the previous year, the value of the importations being Rs. 10,013,000 in 1914 and Rs. 8,514,000 in 1913. India supplied most of the rice imported but the importations from Cochin China rose from 1,871 tons in 1913 to 6,442 tons in 1914; Madagascar supplied 1,658 tons and Hong-Kong 1,169 tons. 7,375 tons of wheat flour valued at Rs. 1,178,000 were imported as against 7,789 tons valued at Rs. 1,002,000 in 1913; Australia supplied 3,858 tons and India 3,516 tons. India supplied all the dholl imported, the importations being 4,087 tons valued at Rs. 627,000 in 1914 as against 5,219 tons valued at Rs 585,000 in 1913.

The importations of coal decreased from 61,090 to 58,933 tons, the United Kingdom continuing to be the principal source of supply. Natal supplied 10,590 tons.

There was a decrease of Rs. 380,000 in the value of imports of machinery for local industries and of Rs. 182,000 in machinery for mechanical transport.

The following tables give the value and country of origin of importations under the heads Machinery and Mechanical Transport for the years 1910 to 1914 :—

Machinery.

Country.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
United Kingdom ..	1,028,122	1,125,953	667,535	1,078,799	735,029	4,635,438
France	29,716	428,267	121,746	58,799	33,135	671,663
Belgium	3,414	786	2,101	6,328	6,336	18,965
Germany ... ..	...	...	646	11,743	3,074	15,463
Other Countries ...	463	4,281	...	3,406	1,804	9,954
Total ...	1, 61,715	1,559,287	792,028	1,159,075	779,378	5,351,483

Mechanical Transport.

Country.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Germany	398,845	150,587	89,965	135,898	107,144	882,439
Belgium	140,277	72,232	53,943	116,098	149,236	530,886
United Kingdom..	106,909	29,338	17,472	221,006	34,820	409,644
France	927	...	...	62	...	989
Italy ... ..	...	...	...	148	...	148
Total ...	646,958	252,157	160,480	473,302	291,209	1,824,106

The value of machinery for local industries imported in 1914 was Rs. 779,378 and the imports during the last five years amounted to Rs. 5,351,483. Practically all the machinery comes from the

United Kingdom, the rolling stock for the light tramways being of foreign manufacture.

The use of motor cars and motor cycles has developed rapidly in the last few years. In 1907, 13 cars and 2 cycles were imported and in 1908, 6 cars and 3 cycles, while during the last 6 years 350 cars valued at Rs. 1,597,000 and 105 cycles valued at Rs. 77,000 have been imported. The number of motor cars imported in 1914 was 56 valued at Rs. 179,000, and of cycles 30 valued at Rs. 27,000.

The following table shows the principal countries which export goods to Mauritius and the value of the goods exported, exclusive of specie, in the years 1913 and 1914 :—

Country.	Exports to Mauritius.	
	1913.	1914.
British India	Rs. 13,463,000	Rs. 14,510,000
United Kingdom	12,149,000	11,818,000
France	3,444,000	2,230,000
Cochin China	293,000	987,000
Australia	608,000	956,000
Madagascar	996,358	892,000
United States	863,000	686,000
Belgium	593,000	500,000
Reunion	373,000	404,000
Sumatra	322,000	359,000
Cape Colony	789,000	335,000
Germany	431,000	309,000
Straits Settlements	178,000	289,000
Natal	159,000	243,000

The United Kingdom, British India or British Possessions are the largest suppliers of wearing apparel, bacon, gunny bags, beer, books, bran, chemicals for manures, cement, coal, confectionery, dholl, gram, oats, rice, flour, cotton, salt fish, ghee, hardware and cutlery, iron nails, wrought iron, boots and shoes, machinery for local industries, manure (bone), salt, soap, whisky, stationery, tea, tin, umbrellas (cotton), shooks, sleepers, timber, woollen goods.

Foreign countries are the main source of supply for oxen, butter, lard, clocks and watches, enamelled ware, glassware, haberdashery, jewellery, machinery for mechanical transport, matches, motor cars, petroleum, cigarette paper, perfumery, potatoes, brandy, wine, sulphur, tobacco (manufactured) and cigars, toys.

Exports.

The total value of the Exports, excluding specie but including charges, was in 1913 Rs. 32,291,706 and in 1914 Rs. 59,524,405.

The following table shows the value and the destination of the principal products of the Colony, other than sugar, which were exported in 1913 and 1914 :—

Product.	Year.	Exported to			Total.
		United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Aloe Fibre ...	1913	703,654	49,365	100,549	853,568
„ ..	1914	452,010	6,240	125,976	584,226
Copra ...	1913	12,900	...	16,200	29,100
„ ...	1914	141,390	...	...	141,390
Molasses ...	1913	4	61,298	8	61,310
„ ...	1914	...	112,665	...	112,665
Rum ...	1913	4,416	17,914	...	22,330
„ ...	1914	5,783	11,531	...	17,314

The following table shows the principal countries to which sugar was exported during the calendar years 1913 and 1914 :—

Country.	1913. Tons*.	1914. Tons*.
United Kingdom ...	31,170	155,912
British India ...	127,620	115,563
Cape Colony ...	14,387	7,190
France ...	5,378	3,107
Ceylon ...	629	2,620
Australia ...	2,132	1,525
Hong-Kong ...	3,293	1,096

Out of 289,372 tons of sugar exported in 1914, the United Kingdom and British India purchased 271,475 tons.

* Metric ton = 1,000 kilogrammes.

AGRICULTURE.

Sugar.

A total of 159,172 arpents was under cultivation in sugar-cane on December 31st. 1914, or an extension of 5,756 arpents over the area recorded for 1913. This increase is made up as follows :—

On Estates		+ 74 arpents.
By Planters	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{As " metayers " } \\ \text{on Estates} \quad + 7,754 \text{ arpents} \\ \text{Off Estates} \quad - 2,072 \text{ " } \end{array} \right\}$	+ 5,682 arpents.

The area under cultivation by estates has not varied to any extent, relatively large increases in some districts being set off by the " morcellement " of estates in others. The increase in area under sugar-cane is due to " planters " cultivations. Of the total area of 159,172 arpents under sugar-cane, planters cultivated 66,584 arpents of which 53,127 arpents were cultivated by small planters of Indian origin. The principal extensions in sugar-cane cultivation have taken place, as during the year 1913, in the districts of Pamplemousses, Grand Port and Rivière du Rempart.

The total output of the factories for the 1914-15 crop—year was 277,180 metric tons, of which 252,302 were exported up to the 31st. of May 1915. This is the largest crop the island has ever produced and with the high prices realised has placed the industry in a very sound financial condition.

The information in respect of the average selling price, gathered by the Statistical Division of the Department of Agriculture, shows that it will approximate Rs. 11.20 per 50 kilograms, giving to the crop a monetary value of Rs. 62,088,000.

The weight and monetary value of the crop for the last 5 years is shown below.

Years.	Total Produce Tons *	Monetary Value. (unit : Rs. 1,000,000)
1910-11	222,830	31.6
1911-12	169,550	32.9
1912-13	213,059	29.8
1913-14	249,703	34.7
1914-15	277,180	62.1 (estimated).

The high price realised for the 1914-15 crop was due to the war in Europe. Of this crop, over 161,000 tons were sold to His Majesty's Government, and the planters of the colony presented for the use of His Majesty's Army and Navy a free gift of 1,000 tons of high-grade vesou sugar.

* Metric ton = 1,000 kilogrammes.

During 1914 some improvements were made in the machinery of factories. Two mills were added during the year, and the number of boilers added was five. "Secheries" or megass driers were decreased by three and economisers increased by seven. The number of decanters was increased by 164 and defecators reduced by 29. The number of crystallisers-in-motion was increased by 80, and 5 Weston-type centrifugals were installed.

Aloes.

The area returned as being under cultivation with "aloes" shows a considerable increase, particularly in the district of Flacq. The total area of cultivated and wild aloes however remains stationery. The fibre industry flourished up to the outbreak of war, when sales stopped and most factories closed down. At the end of 1914 enquiries for fibre began to be made, and gradually with a hardening of prices, the factories began operations again.

Vanilla.

The vanilla crop was about 1,500–1,600 kilos, but the war closed the markets and except for a few local sales no business was done.

Other Cultivations.

There has been a reduction in the cultivation of manioc, particularly in the district of Pamplémousses, while there has been an increase in the area under maize notably upon estates in Grand Port.

Live Stock.

The number of horned Stock upon estates was returned at 21,305, a reduction of 836 on the returns for 1913. Milch cows held by people residing upon estates numbered 3,282 against 4,096 in 1913, and it is presumed that, owing to the increased cost of living brought about by the war and to the increases in the prices of imported foodstuffs, the Indian residents on estates have been compelled to dispose of some of their animals. The numbers of pigs and goats held by residents upon estates were 4,856 and 7,718 respectively, against 6,981 and 8,220 for the year 1913.

Co-Operative Credit Societies

At the 30th. June 1914, fifteen societies, with unlimited liability, had been registered under the provisions of the Co-operative Credit Societies Ordinance (1913). The aggregate working capital of these Societies amounted to Rs. 125,676, of which a sum of Rs. 37,550 or less than 30 % was lent by the Government.

SHIPPING.

The following comparative tables show the number, tonnage and nationality of ships entered and cleared during the years 1913 and 1914.

1914.

1913.

Nationality.	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.		Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.		Tons.		No.		Tons.		No.		Tons.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	121	302,240	25	7,380	146	309,620	125	309,744	32	12,505	157	322,249
French	41	98,422	...	...	41	98,422	34	83,649	...	...	34	83,649
Norwegian	4	238	...	...	4	238	5	7,958	...	...	5	7,958
Swedish	1	2,132	...	...	1	2,132	3	6,827	...	...	3	6,827
German	4	7,204	...	...	4	7,204	3	5,697	...	...	3	5,697
Danish	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5,629	...	...	2	5,629
Russian	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3,616	...	...	2	3,616
Spanish	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2,404	...	...	1	2,404
Dutch	1	3	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total entered	172	410,289	25	7,380	197	417,619	175	425,524	32	12,505	207	438,029
British	119	298,744	27	8,380	146	307,124	123	310,152	30	11,368	153	321,520
French	41	98,707	...	...	41	98,707	34	83,851	...	...	34	83,851
Norwegian	4	238	...	...	4	238	5	7,958	...	...	5	7,958
Swedish	1	2,132	...	...	1	2,132	3	6,265	...	...	3	6,265
German	4	7,204	...	...	4	7,204	3	5,697	...	...	3	5,697
Danish	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5,629	...	...	2	5,629
Russian	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3,616	...	...	2	3,616
Spanish	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2,404	...	...	1	2,404
Dutch	1	3	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total cleared	170	407,028	27	8,380	197	415,408	173	425,572	30	11,368	203	436,940

These tables show that 207 vessels with a tonnage of 438,029 reported during the year against 197 with a tonnage of 417,619 in the previous year, giving a total increase of 10 in the number of vessels and of 20,410 in tonnage. Two hundred and three vessels with a tonnage of 436,940 cleared as against 197 with a tonnage of 415,408 in the previous year, showing an increase of 6 vessels and of 21,532 in tonnage.

The increase in the number reported is divided between those reporting with cargo and those reporting in ballast as follows :

Reported with cargo	...	...	+ 4 tonnage	-20,635
„ „ ballast	...	...	+ 6 „	+41,045
<hr/>				
10				20,410

The clearances show an increase of 6 vessels and of 21,532 in tonnage. Divided between vessels cleared with cargo and vessels cleared in ballast, the figures are as follows :

Cleared with cargo	...	...	+19 tonnage	+45,847
„ „ ballast...	...	...	-13 „	-24,315
<hr/>				
6				21,532

Distinguishing steam vessels from sailing vessels there has been an increase of 3 in the number reporting and of 15,285 in tonnage as compared with the previous year and an increase of 3 in the number cleared and of 18,544 in tonnage. The number of steamers reporting with cargo is 4 less than in the previous year with a decrease of 25,832 in tonnage and the number of steamers reporting with ballast is 7 more than in the previous year with an increase of 41,117 in tonnage. Twenty-one more steamers cleared with cargo than in the previous year with a corresponding increase of 46,165 in tonnage; the number of steamers clearing in ballast was less by 18 with a corresponding decrease of 27,621 in tonnage.

The number of sailing vessels reporting with cargo was greater by 8 with a corresponding increase of 5,197 in tonnage. No sailing vessel reported with ballast during the year as against 1 with a tonnage of 72 in 1913. There was a decrease of 2 in the number of sailing vessels cleared with cargo with a corresponding decrease of 318 in tonnage; the number of sailing vessels cleared in ballast was greater by 5 with a corresponding increase of 3,306 in tonnage.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Among the more important legislative measures of the year are the following :—

The Exportation of Plumage Birds Ordinance, 1914 (No. 3), as amended by *The Exportation of Plumage Birds (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1914 (No. 34), prohibits the exportation of the plumage or skins of certain birds.

The Irrigation Works Ordinance, 1914 (No. 4), as amended by *The Irrigation Works (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1914 (No. 33), provides for the execution of certain Irrigation works and traces out the procedure for the acquisition of the required lands and rights of aqueduct.

The Aerial Navigation Ordinance, 1914 (No. 9), provides for the protection of the Public and the Colony against dangers arising from the navigation of aircraft. It is borrowed from the *Aerial Navigation Acts*, 1911, and 1913.

The Electric Lighting and Power (Amendment) Ordinance 1914 (No. 11), enacts the procedure for enabling the undertaker to fix poles, stays or struts on private property, in the event of the owner of the property refusing the required permission.

The Prevention of Injury to Telegraph Poles and Wires (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914 (No. 12), gives similar powers to the Colonial Postmaster.

The Copyright Ordinance, 1914 (No. 13), provides for the importation of copies under the Copyright Act, 1911, and for the penalties for dealing with infringing copies. It is borrowed from Section 14 of the aforesaid Act and from Section 11 of the Commonwealth of Australia Act No. 20 of 1912.

The Boards (Road Improvement) Amendment Ordinance, 1914 (No. 14), simplifies the procedure traced out by Ordinance No. 16 of 1907 for the purchase of land required by the Boards of Townships, or by the District Boards.

The Customs (Naval and Military) Rebate Ordinance, 1914 (No. 19), provides for the refund of Customs duty on goods purchased by the Naval or Military Authorities, or supplied by Contractors, for the public use of His Majesty's Sea or Land Forces in the Colony.

The Game Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914 (No. 20), prohibits the taking or destroying of the eggs and nests of all birds except those of the bul-bul and of the sparrow ; and empowers the Governor to proclaim certain reserved areas in which the killing and taking of any bird will be prohibited at all times.

The Pilotage Ordinance, 1914 (No. 23), which is borrowed from

Section 15 of the Pilotage Act, 1913, extends the liability of the owner or master of a vessel to cases of compulsory pilotage.

The Woods and Forests (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914 (No. 24), abolishes the Woods and Forests Board as constituted by Ordinance No. 5 of 1901.

The Trading with the Enemy Ordinance, 1914 (No. 28), which is borrowed from the Trading with the Enemy Act, 1914, prohibits trading with the enemy ; it also provides for the issue of warrants of inspection and for the appointment of controllers to certain firms and companies.

The Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1914 (No. 32), reproduces the Bills of Exchange Act, 1882, with a few modifications necessitated by local circumstances.

The Civil Status (Christian Marriages) Amendment Ordinance, 1914 (No. 35), validates the marriage celebrated by the Ministers of the several Christian churches in the Colony, and provides for the requisite formalities and for the registration of the Acts of Marriage.

The Council of the Bar Ordinance, 1914 (No. 36), provides for the establishment and organisation of a Council of the Bar in the Colony.

The Curepipe (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914 (No. 38), extends the powers and duties and increases the revenue of the Board of Curepipe.

The Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914 (No. 41), exempts money order and postal order receipts from the stamp duty of 4 cents levied on all receipts under article 2 of Ordinance No. 41 of 1888.

The Forest Produce Protection Ordinance, 1914 (No. 43), provides for the control of dealers in forest produce and for the repression of larceny of timber.

The Labour (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914 (No. 45), substitutes the finger print system as a means of identification for Immigrants in place of the photograph.

The Filiation Ordinance, 1914 (No. 46), allows the proof of paternal descent in certain specified cases. It is borrowed from the French law of the 16th. November 1912.

The Succession Duties (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914 (No. 47), increases the succession duties and provides for the better recovery thereof.

The Reformatory (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914 (No. 52), amends the law relative to Reformatory schools and to Juvenile offenders and abolishes short periods of detention in the Reformatory.

IV. — EDUCATION.

Primary Schools.

The Primary Schools at the end of the year 1914 numbered 151 of which 60 were Government and 91 Aided Schools. Of the Aided Schools there were 67 Roman Catholic, 19 Church of England, 2 Presbyterian, 2 Mahomedan and 1 Hindoo. Two schools, one Roman Catholic and one Church of England, which had been working for some time in accordance with the Code, were placed on the list of Aided Schools during the year.

The number of Primary Schools, Government and Aided, and the number of pupils for the years 1910 to 1914 are shown in the following table :—

Year.	Government Schools.			Aided Schools.		
	Number of Schools.	Annual average number of pupils on roll.	Annual average number of pupils in attendance.	Number of Schools.	Annual average number of pupils on roll.	Annual average number of pupils in attendance.
1910	61	9,326	5,951	88	11,621	7,934
1911	60	9,421	6,030	88	11,589	7,972
1912	60	9,522	5,775	89	11,987	7,635
1913	60	9,223	5,693	89	11,735	7,717
1914	60	9,906	6,435	91	12,762	8,684

The average attendance in Government and Aided schools for the year was 15,119 with a roll of 22,668, showing an average attendance of 66.7 % of the number of pupils on the roll. There is a considerable increase in the number enrolled and the percentage of attendance as compared with the number on the roll has also risen. The numbers for 1913 were: On roll, 20,958; average attendance, 13,410; percentage attendance, 63.98. The average number in attendance for the year exceeded that for 1911, the highest recorded, by 8 %.

The increase in the number of Indian children attending the Primary schools is maintained, the figures being as follows :— 9,369 in 1914, 8,413 in 1913, 8,316 in 1912, 8,175 in 1911 and 7,462 in 1910.

Of the total number of pupils on the roll in the six standard classes 62 % passed the examination tests as compared with 64 % in 1913 and 56 % in 1912, while of the number of pupils who

were presented for examination 64 % passed in 1914 as compared with 64 % in 1913 and 59 % in 1912.

The total expenditure for the year on the salaries of, and grants to, Teachers in Primary schools amounted to Rs. 319,245, of which Rs. 142,439 was expended on Government schools and Rs. 176,806 on Aided schools. The figures for 1913 were Rs. 296,118, Rs. 134,681 and Rs. 161,437, respectively. The cost to Government of a pupil in a Government school was Rs. 19.26 and in an Aided school Rs. 15.66, as compared with Rs. 19.70 and Rs. 15.39 in 1913.

There are open annually to pupils of Primary schools 6 scholarships and 6 exhibitions at the Royal College for which there is keen competition. The exhibitioners receive free tuition and the scholars free tuition and an allowance of Rs. 100 a year. There were 165 candidates in 1914 and 148 in 1913. Six candidates failed in the test examination and 31 scored the minimum number of marks. The number of candidates from Government schools was 100 and from Aided schools 65, as compared with 97 from Government and 51 from Aided schools in the previous year.

Elementary instruction in Hygiene and Malaria prevention has been given to the children in the Primary Schools. Hygiene was taken as a special subject of examination for grants in 14 Government and 4 Aided Schools. In these 631 children were presented for examination and 472 obtained certificates.

A course in Elementary Agricultural Science for Teachers was given at the Royal College and was attended by 35 Head Teachers of Government and Aided schools.

Secondary Education.

Secondary Education is provided by the Royal College, and associated schools. 499 candidates from 14 associated schools were presented for examination of whom 201 passed. There were in December 1914, 252 pupils at the Royal College, the average number for the year being 268. Of 252 pupils at the College in December, 96 did not pay fees.

The attendance at the associated schools was 505.

There were 34 candidates for the London Matriculation Examinations in 1914. Six out of the 31 candidates from the Royal College passed in the Second Division, one of the 3 others passed in the First Division.

There were 101 candidates for the Senior Cambridge Examination : 33 out of the 71 candidates from the Royal College and 3 of the 30 others passed. Out of 25 candidates from the Royal College for the Junior Cambridge Examination, 15 passed.

There are scholarships and exhibitions in nearly all the classes of the Royal College and there are two valuable scholarships to enable pupils of the College to continue their studies in Europe.

There are 10 girls' schools which are affiliated to the Royal College in connection with the scheme for the Higher Education of Girls. The number of candidates who were presented for examination was 400 of whom 202 obtained Honours Certificates and 33 Pass Certificates. Twenty-eight girls entered for the Senior Local Examination of whom 15 passed. Five entered for the Junior Division but none passed. The associated schools for Boys and the schools for the Higher Education of Girls have been placed under a common set of regulations and will be called Aided Secondary Schools.

Training of Teachers.

There are Government Training Schools for men and for women. There were 9 candidates from the Men's Training School for the second class teacher's certificate, of whom 3 passed. There were 4 candidates from the Women's Training School for the second class certificate and 2 for the third class; they all passed.

The following table shows the number of candidates for certificates and the number who passed during the year :—

Class of Certificate.	Candidates.			Successful.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Second ...	26	11	37	4	6	10
Third ...	45	24	69	6	5	11
Monitor's ...	112	114	226	8	8	16
Total ...	183	149	332	18	19	37

There are 672 certificated Teachers employed in Government and Aided schools, of whom 153 are Head Teachers, 162 Assistant Teachers and 357 Monitors.

Technical Education

There are 8 mechanical engineering apprenticeships for which there were 84 candidates in 1914 as against 110 in 1913. There are 2 horticultural apprenticeships for which there were 23 candidates as

against 27 in 1913, and 2 engineering studentships for which there were 4 candidates as against 1 in 1913.

Needlework receives attention in girls' schools and the work of the pupils continues to show improvement. Thirty-three candidates entered for the needlework competition, to 4 of whom apprenticeships were awarded.

Manual work is taught in 1 Government and 5 Aided schools.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

There are 11 Hospitals, including 3 in connection with the Prisons and Reformatory, and there is also a Hospital Ward with 30 beds attached to the Lunatic Asylum. The total number of "cases" treated at all hospitals was 18,563 as compared with 16,280 in 1913. The number of "cases" treated at the dispensaries was 62,944.

Lunatic Asylum.

There is a Lunatic Asylum and a Lunatic Ward in connection with the Poorhouse of Barkly Asylum. There were 488 patients in the Asylum on the 31st. December 1914 as compared with 467 on the corresponding date of the previous year, and the daily average rose from 455.74 in 1913 to 470.45. The total number of certified lunatics in the Colony on the 31st. of December 1914, including patients out on probation and patients in the Lunatic Ward of Barkly Asylum, was 706, giving a proportion of 1 insane to 532 of population. There were 22 criminal lunatics of whom 19 were males and 3 females.

Poor Relief.

Barkly Asylum is the only institution under the direct control of the Poor Law Commissioner at which paupers receive institutional relief.

The buildings of Barkly Asylum were originally acquired for the purpose of affording institutional relief to the poor. The hospital was later placed entirely under the control of the Medical Department and has come to be used as a general hospital for the district. Arrangements also exist at various religious institutions for the maintenance of aged and infirm paupers at fixed rates, and there is an asylum for pauper lepers in which patients are maintained at the public expense.

Exclusive of the number of patients treated free at the Public Hospitals and Dispensaries of the Colony, and at St. Lazare Leper

Asylum 1,252 paupers, as compared with 1,337 in 1913, received institutional relief during 1914 at the Barkly and Lunatic Asylums and different religious institutions.

2,343 paupers (561 males and 1,682 females) received outdoor relief (pecuniary), permanently or temporarily, during 1914, against 2,929 in 1913.

Savings Bank.

At the Government Savings Bank there was on the 30th. June 1914 a sum of Rs. 3,227,874 to the credit of 29,409 depositors, as compared with Rs. 3,291,656 to the credit of 28,841 depositors on the 30th. June 1913. The investment funds amounted to Rs. 3,494,171. Interest is allowed at the rate of 3 %.

The following table shows the number of depositors who belonged to the General and Indian populations and the amount standing to their credit on the 30th. June 1914 :

		Number	Rs.
General Population	... ..	17,848	1,917,566
Indian Population	... ..	11,561	1,320,308

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

The authorised strength of the Police on the 31st. of December 1914 was 1 Inspector General, 1 Deputy Inspector General, 5 Inspectors, 6 Sub Inspectors, 1 Staff Sergeant Major, 36 Sergeants, 49 Corporals, 496 Constables. Fifty-four men were enlisted in 1914 and the total number discharged was 122.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the Police in 1914 was 21,262 as against 24,350 in 1913.

They may be classified as follows :

Homicide	... ..	15
Other offences against the person	... ..	7,920
Prædial Larceny	... ..	210
Other offences against property	... ..	4,798
Other offences	... ..	8,319
		<hr/>
		21,262

In connection with these offences 11,784 persons (including 409 persons arrested on suspicion) were apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates. In 12,443 of the cases no person was charged.

The total number of persons brought before the Magisterial Courts (District, Stipendiary and Bench of Magistrates) in 1914 was 22,136 ; of these the number prosecuted was 19,903 including persons tried before a Bench of Magistrates or committed to the Court of Assizes. The number discharged for want of prosecution by party complaining or for want of evidence was 2,233.

The cases prosecuted in the District Courts (including preliminary inquiries with a view to commitment to the Assizes and Bench cases) were distributed as follows :—

Offences	Discharged for want of prosecution or evidence.	Dismissed on the merits.	Con- victions.	Committed to the Assizes.
Against the person	167	400	917	23
Prædial Larceny	5	24	127	...
Other offences against property	436	343	1,457	6
Offences against Revenue, Mu- nicipal, Road and other laws relating to the social econo- my of the Colony.	134	431	12,141	...
Other offences	39	80	1,405	...
Total	781	1,278	16,047	29

The total number of persons prosecuted before the District Courts during the last five years was distributed as follows :—

Year.	Offences against the person.	Prædial Larceny.	Other offences against property.	Other offences (including Revenue cases, &c.)	Total.
1910	1,323	206	1,935	12,035	15,499
1911	1,398	174	2,368	12,273	16,213
1912	1,486	297	2,022	14,152	17,957
1913	1,468	198	1,681	14,274	17,621
1914	1,310	151	1,806	14,057	17,354

The convictions (including committal to the Assizes) before the District Courts for the same period were as follows :—

Year.	Offences against the person.	Prædial Larceny.	Other Offences against property.	Other Offences.
1910 ...	1,003	175	1,493	11,449
1911 ...	954	159	1,876	11,697
1912 ...	1,073	280	1,645	13,587
1913 ...	985	166	1,338	13,530
1914 ...	940	127	1,463	13,546

There were 24 cases in which 26 persons were charged at the Assizes in 1914. Of these 12 persons were acquitted and 13 were convicted. In one case a nolle prosequi was entered.

The following table shows the number of persons convicted at the Assizes during the last five years and the offences for which they were convicted.

Year.	Murder, other than wife and child murder.	Manslaughter and attempt at.	Attempt at murder.	Murder of wife, reputed wife or concubine.	Including attempts to commit the several offences.									
					Child-Murder.	Concealment of birth.	Abortion.	Rape.	Unnatural crimes.	Other offences against the person.	Malicious injury to property.	Larceny with aggravating circumstances.	Other offences against property.	Miscellaneous.
1910	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	24	3	8	...	1
1911	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	49	2	...	...
1912	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	2	1	...
1913	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	7	...	6	...	...
1914	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	7	..	1	...	...

In 1914 twenty-three persons were tried at the Assizes for offences against the person as compared with 15 in 1913, the number convicted being 12 in 1914 and 10 in 1913. The number of persons tried at the Assizes for offences against property was 3 in 1914 of whom 1 was convicted, as against 7 in 1913 of whom 6 were convicted.

Prisons and Reformatory.

There was a decrease of 198 in the number of prisoners admitted to prison after conviction as compared with 1913, the figures being :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
	—	—	—
1913 ...	3,580	194	3,774
1914 ...	3,454	122	3,576

The number of prisoners under detention on the 31st of December 1914 was 562 as compared with 778 on the corresponding date of the previous year. The daily average number under detention shows a decrease of 132.68 as compared with 1913, the daily average for the year being 590.73 as against 723.41 in 1913.

The deaths in the Prisons numbered 8 as compared with 15 in 1913. The daily average number under treatment in the Prison Hospitals was 22.21 in 1914 as compared with 26.91 in 1913: the prevailing diseases were malaria and dysentery.

There were 18 escapes during the year as against 12 in 1913. Fifteen of the prisoners who escaped were recaptured, and in addition to these 3 prisoners who had escaped previous to the 1st. of January 1914 were recaptured.

The numbers admitted to the Reformatory in 1914 were 74 new boys, 49 ex-Reformatory boys and 32 untried, a total of 155 as against 182 in 1913. There was an increase of 2.17 in the daily average as compared with 1913.

Of the 123 boys who were admitted on conviction, 74 entered the Institution with sentences of 6 months or less, of whom 36 were sentenced to a month or less, and 21 of these to sentences of 7 days or less.

No deaths occurred during the year. The general state of health of the boys was good. The admissions to hospital decreased by 66 as compared with the previous year.

The discipline among the boys was satisfactory; there were 24 departmental offences as against 34 in 1913, the offences being committed by 17 boys. None of the offences were of a serious nature.

There were 2 escapes during the year; both boys were recaptured on the day of their escape.

Short periods of sentence have been abolished by the Reformatory (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The total population of the Island on the 31st. December 1914 is estimated in the Registrar General's Annual Report at 376,233, exclusive of the Dependencies (7,024).

Births and Deaths.

There were 14,024 births registered during the year. The law allows a delay of 45 days for free registration and the number of births which were not registered owing to death intervening before registration was 1,205. The total number of births was accordingly 15,229, of which 7,520 were males and 7,709 females, giving a proportion of 40.8 infants born to 1,000 persons living. The deaths registered numbered 12,134, giving a proportion of 32.5 deaths to 1,000 persons living.

The birth rate amongst the general population was 38 per thousand as compared with 38.2 per thousand in 1913, and amongst the Indian population 42 per thousand as compared with 41.9 per thousand in 1913. The death rate amongst the general and Indian populations was 30.4 and 33.4 per thousand respectively, as against 36.3 and 36.6 per thousand respectively in the previous year.

Public Health.

The general health conditions were not favourable during the year 1914. The number of patients treated at the public hospitals and dispensaries shows an increase over that recorded in 1913. From the returns of the Civil Status Officers the diseases that caused the largest number of deaths in 1914 were Malaria (3,914), Pneumonia (919), Tuberculosis (974) and Influenza (268), but it should be observed that a medical certificate is not required in all cases. The statistics from the public hospitals and dispensaries also shew that the rise in admissions was principally due to malaria and influenza, the admissions for those diseases being more numerous between March and August.

There were 125 cases of plague registered during 1914. This is the lowest number in any year since the outbreak of the disease; 111 cases were fatal giving a death rate of 88.8%. In 1913 there were 313 cases with 261 deaths, giving a death rate of 83.4%.

The number of cases of enteric fever increased from 172 in 1913 to 234 in 1914. The cases occurred principally in the districts of Plaines Wilhems, Port Louis and Moka.

Malaria.

Malaria still causes more deaths than any other disease.

The number of deaths ascribed to fever was 3,914, showing a decrease of 87 on that recorded in 1913; 2,925 cases were treated in the hospitals. The following are the figures for the years 1910 to 1914.

Year	...	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
Cases	...	2,338	2,117	2,554	2,546	2,925

The case mortality was 1.77 % as against 1.84 % in 1913. The death rate for the whole Colony per thousand of the population was 10.4.

The spleen census and the treatment of school-children with quinine, as well as the free house to house distribution of quinine, have been continued under the supervision of the Sanitary Wardens. The Sanitary Branch of the Department has carried out major anti-malarial works, at Rivière Sèche and Rivière Françoise in Flacq district and at Rivière Citron, Village Bague Canal, Ruisseau Sec, Rivière Terre Rouge, Le Hochet, Tombeau River and the Cocoterie Marshes in Pamplemousses district.

Vaccination.

The number of children presented for vaccination at the public vaccine stations was 12,537 as compared with 8,925 in 1913. Of this number 12,460 were certified by the Public Vaccinators to have been successfully vaccinated; 54 vaccinations were unsuccessful and in the remaining 23 cases the result of the operation could not be ascertained. The percentage of successful vaccinations was 99.3 %.

VIII.—METEOROLOGICAL.

Meteorological observations are taken at the Royal Alfred Observatory, Pamplemousses, and at nine second-order stations. The Observatory is about three miles from the West coast and is 179 feet above sea level. There are considerable variations both in temperature and humidity in the different parts of the island, the coast districts being hotter and drier than the higher altitudes in the interior. Hurricanes occur between December and April, which is the hottest season.

The mean rain-fall from 49 stations was 59.10 inches as compared with 75.83 inches in 1913 and an average of 74.94 inches. Heavy rains, relatively to the normal, fell in February and June. The rain-fall at the Observatory was below normal, being 43.12 inches as compared with a normal of 47.95 inches, and the number of "rainy days" recorded was 215 as compared with an average of 204, a "rainy day" being one in which .005 inch or more of rain was measured.

The mean temperature of the air at the Observatory was 73.°7 as compared with an average of 73°·4, the highest temperature recorded being 89.°9 on the 10th of March, and the lowest 54° on the 23rd of July. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded at the Observatory between 1875 and 1914 were 94°·7 on the 23rd of December 1900, and 49°·9 on the 8th of August 1907.

From February to September the temperature remained generally above normal, falling to below normal in the last quarter of the year.

During the year 1914, there were, so far as is yet known, nine cyclonic disturbances in the South Indian Ocean, as follows:—

January	14	to	16	March	1	to	3
"	21	to	26	"	16	to	24
"	24	to	26	April	1	to	6
"	27	to	30	May	12	to	26
February	20	to	29				

IX.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

The total number of Post Offices open in 1914 was 63 of which 56 were also Telegraph Offices. In the course of the year 2 Post Offices were closed leaving at the end of the year 61 Offices of which 46 are at Railway stations and 15 are in districts at a certain distance from the Railway system.

The revenue for the year 1914 was Rs. 216,510 as compared with Rs. 233,154* in 1913. The expenditure was Rs 164,302 in 1914 and Rs. 171,331* in 1913, leaving an excess of revenue over expenditure of Rs. 52,208 in 1914 and Rs. 61,824 in 1913.

The total number of letters, post cards, newspapers and postal packets, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the Post Office in 1914 was approximately 3,764,086 as compared with 3,645,281* in 1913. There is an increase of 168,419 in newspapers, commercial papers and samples and a decrease of 49,614 in the number of letters, postcards, &c., as compared with the previous year. The number of reply coupons sold during the year was 493 and the number paid was 61. The number of postal parcels received and despatched decreased from 15,319 in 1913 to 10,900 in 1914. The number received from abroad decreased by 3,473 and the duty collected amounted to Rs. 33,136.

The number of Inland money orders issued was 52,962 and their value Rs 569,595, being an increase of 4,906 in number and of Rs. 82,170 in value as compared with the previous year. The number issued on other countries was 6,753 and their value was

*The figures given in the Report for 1913 have since been revised. The correct figures are now given.

Rs. 273,193 being a decrease of 1,704 in number and an increase of Rs. 26,460 in value as compared with the previous year.

There were decreases of 549 in the number of postal orders sold and of 613 in the number paid. The decreases in value being Rs. 5,503 and Rs. 5,364 respectively.

There are 405 miles of Telegraph and 109 miles of Telephone wires under the charge of the Department. The Railway has not a telegraphic system of its own and the ordinary messages for the working of the traffic and for the administration of the Department are transmitted over the Post Office wires. The number of Railway messages and signals transmitted in 1914 was 295,721. The number of messages sent by the public increased by 9,462 in 1914. Out of a total number of 415,423 messages forwarded, 54,137 were sent by the public as compared with 44,675 out of a total of 284,020 in 1913. The receipts for the messages sent by the public amounted to Rs. 24,024, in which charges for portorage (Rs. 10,187) are included.

X.—RAILWAYS.

There is a single line of Railway of about 120 miles in length exclusive of the Bois Cheri Light Railway. The gauge is 4 feet 8½ inches.

The earnings from all sources for the year amounted to Rs. 3,169,960 as compared with Rs. 2,914,020 in 1913 being an increase of 7.32 %. Excluding Government traffic the earnings amounted to Rs. 2,888,918 being Rs. 230,151 more than in 1913. The services performed for Government Departments for which no cash payments were made would at ordinary rates have cost Rs. 281,042 of which Rs. 237,306 for passenger traffic, Rs. 35,786 for goods traffic and Rs. 7,950 for parcels, representing 8.99 % of the total traffic as compared with 8.75 % in 1913.

The receipts for passenger traffic amounted to Rs. 1,273,350 being higher than those of the preceding year by Rs. 24,649 and in excess of the mean for the last five years by Rs. 109,919.

The following table shows the tonnage of goods traffic, exclusive of Government traffic, carried in 1913 and 1914 :

	1913	1914	Increase
Sugar Canes... ..	154,737	176,682	21,945
Sugar	189,692	200,233	10,541
General Merchandize	171,068	183,112	12,044
Total... ..	515,497	560,027	44,530

The total tonnage carried was 575,112 tons or 7.94 % more in 1914 than in 1913. The aggregate earnings for goods traffic were Rs. 1,514,398 or 10.70 % above those of 1913. The earnings for sugar cane traffic were Rs. 164,227 or 92.30 cents of a rupee per ton carried, as compared with 74.42 cents in 1913. The earnings for sugar traffic were Rs. 807,746 or Rs. 4.03 per ton carried, as against Rs. 3.85 in 1913. The earnings for general merchandize were Rs. 539,599 or Rs. 2.72 per ton carried as against Rs. 2.76 in 1913. The total expenditure charged to capital account including all sums paid from general revenue, surplus balances or loans up to the 31st. of December 1914 was Rs. 32,374,697* in which is included Rs. 2,308,777 advanced on account of the re-equipment of the Railways and which is eventually to be met from loan funds. The working expenses for 1914 amounted to Rs. 1,898,819. The ratio which working expenses bore to total earnings showed a decrease of 9.52 % as compared with 1913, the figures being 69.42 % and 59.90 % respectively. This large decrease in the working expenses is due to the establishment of a Materials and Stores Account to which is charged in the first instance the cost of all purchases of stores. As the stores are issued to works the items of the Estimates, under which provision is made for the works, are debited with the cost of the stores. The net earnings amounted to Rs. 1,271,141 or 3.92 % on the capital.

A covered platform and an overbridge at Curepipe Station were completed. The passenger platform at Montagne Blanche was lengthened. A new station was built midway between Midlands and Fressanges to replace these two stations. A carriage shed was put up at Port Louis and the reconstruction of the Tron Fanfaron viaduct was commenced.

Bois Chéri

There is a light railway of 2 feet 6 inches gauge running from Rivière du Poste Station on the Savanne Branch of the Midland Line to Mexico. The length of the line is 10 miles. The total goods traffic carried in 1914 amounted to 19,593 tons of which 17,518 tons were sugar cane as against a total traffic of 18,726 tons and 15,507 tons of sugar cane in 1913. The actual working expenses for 1914 were Rs. 16,196, the earnings Rs. 12,664 and the work done for the Government Departments was valued at Rs. 818. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 15,578, Rs. 10,834 and Rs. 2,775.

* Figure subject to revision by the Treasury.

XI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The more important works undertaken by the Public Works Department during the year were in connection with the construction of the Victoria Hospital, Irrigation works at La Ferme, improvement of the shed accommodation at the Customs, Port Louis drainage, the reconstruction of Road bridges and the Mare aux Vacoas water works.

Buildings.

The Victoria Hospital with accommodation for 242 beds is being constructed near Quatre Bornes; the buildings form a long rectangle with an inner court, the wards being placed at right angles to the long side of the inner court. An administration block, operating room, maternity ward and wards for private patients are also provided.

The Port Office coal shed has been converted into an export shed for sugar and another shed which will be used for the same purpose is being erected. A coal shed will be erected on another site.

Bridges and Roads.

The rebuilding of timber bridges in ferro-concrete has been continued during the year. The Rivière-des-Anguilles bridge has been completed and 12 other smaller bridges have been rebuilt. Progress has been made in the improvement of roads by the use of the steam roller.

Irrigation.

The sites for reservoirs at La Ferme and La Nicolière have been acquired. The dam for the La Ferme reservoir is in course of construction and the reservoir will be completed to its full capacity of 417 million cubic feet. Progress has been made with the diversion weirs on the rivers Sèche, Papayes and du Rempart, the feeder channels from the above weirs to La Ferme reservoir and the northern distribution channel from La Ferme reservoir.

Mare aux Vacoas Water Works.

The reservoir at Mare aux Vacoas, where the average annual rainfall is 137 inches, has a catchment area of about 5 square miles. The top water level is 1,832 feet above the mean sea level and the reservoir has a maximum capacity of 570 millions of gallons. The water flows from the reservoir for 4,900 feet in an open conduit, which is being replaced by a covered concrete channel, and for a further distance of 7,700 feet is taken in a 16" cast iron pipe to the filtering establishment at "La Marie", which is 1,645 feet above sea level.

At the filtering establishment there is a depositing reservoir with a capacity of 1,500,000 gallons and a covered service reservoir with a capacity of 500,000 gallons. Owing to the water being at times heavily charged with organic matter the "Anderson process" for the purification of water was installed and concrete partitions were erected in the depositing reservoir to improve the settlement of solids. Originally there were only 4 filter beds with a superficial area of 6,720 square feet, but 5 additional filter beds have since been constructed with a superficial area of 18,000 square feet and extra aerating trays have been added.

The daily consumption of water exceeds 1,600,000 gallons and with the exception of the supply to the town of Curepipe, the water flows by gravitation to the lower districts. The supply for Curepipe is pumped by means of hydraulic rams to two reservoirs standing 368 feet above the filtering establishment, the motor being driven by water power from the 16" supply main. The increase in the population of Curepipe has necessitated additions to the pumping plant and to the service reservoirs. The concrete covered channel which is to replace the open conduit from the reservoir to the filter beds is nearing completion. An additional service reservoir at Curepipe has been constructed.

Port Louis Drainage Works.

The Port Louis Drainage Works were begun in 1895, the sewers being designed on the separate system and the surface drainage being carried in the street gutters to the various streams which flow into the harbour. The town is divided for drainage purposes into four districts, three of which drain by gravitation sewers into separate collecting wells which are connected by means of syphon pipes to the pumping station near Caudan Bassin. From there, the sewage is pumped through cast iron pipes for 7,900 feet to the sea outfall at the mouth of Grand River North West and is discharged in 10 feet of water at low tide, a thousand feet from the shore. The total length of sewers laid is 25.75 miles and 1,231 properties have been connected. The amount expended on construction works in districts 2, 3 and 4 is Rs. 974,467 and on house services Rs. 615,519.

XII.—FORESTS.

The area of forests, mountain and river reserves and Curatelle lands under the care of the Forest Department was about 84,964 arpents of which about 68,602 arpents were Crown Lands, 10,122 arpents Mountain Reserves, 6,000 arpents River Reserves and 240 arpents Vacant Estates.

Forest Utilization.

The improvement fellings in the Grand Bassin Forest were continued, yielding about 3,370 cubic feet of timber; 21,200 railway keys and 213,150 shingles were also manufactured from the off-fall of trees. Improvement fellings were also begun during the year in Crown Land Gouly fils and yielded 732 cubic feet of timber.

For the supply of fuel to public establishments 1,800 cords of firewood were felled in Crown lands.

Thinnings in forest plantations (chiefly Pines and Eucalyptus) yielded 1,760 cubic feet of timber, which was used for the construction of quarters for the Forestry staff and wood to the value of Rs. 1,708 which was sold.

The cuttings of casuarina on the Pas Geometriques yielded fuel valued at Rs. 21,960 which was sold to the lessees who replanted the areas cleared.

In Mountain Reserves three owners were allowed, subject to an obligation to replant, to remove the dead and dying trees.

Nurseries and Plantations.

About 453 arpents of Crown Lands were artificially restocked with 485,410 plants at a total cost of Rs. 27,096, as compared with an area of 224 arpents restocked with 318,850 plants in 1913. About Rs. 2,200 were realized from the sale of plants raised in nurseries.

XIII.—DEPENDENCIES.

The Dependencies comprise a large number of small islands situated between 5° and 19° 50' South Latitude and 51° and 72° 30' East Longitude, of which the nearest is 230 miles, and the most remote about 1,200 miles distant from Mauritius.

Rodrigues, the largest and most important, is administered by a resident Magistrate, has an area of 40 square miles, and had at the census of 1911 a population of 4,829 of whom 2,523 were males and 2,306 females. The total population showed as compared with 1901 an increase of 1,667.

The increase was almost entirely in the general population which numbered 4,667, or 1,567 more than in 1901. The Indo-Mauritian population numbered 102, other Indians 36, and Chinese 24. The male agricultural population has increased considerably in the last 10 years and development is noticeable in the trade of the island. The Customs returns show that 72 cattle were sent to Mauritius in 1914 as against 92 in 1913. In 1914, 1,290 pigs, value Rs. 18,275, were sent to Mauritius as against 932, value Rs. 14,542, in 1913, and 3,249 goats and sheep, value Rs. 19,341.

as against 4,216, value Rs. 24,518, in 1913. 238,505 kilos of salted fish were exported during 1914. The exports of tobacco shewed an increase of 21,420 kilos as compared with those of the previous year when 13,957 kilos were exported.

At the Rodrigues branch of the Government Savings Bank, there was on the 30th of June 1914 a sum of Rs. 25,775 to the credit of 70 depositors, as compared with Rs. 16,710 and 63 depositors on the corresponding date of 1913.

Most of the islands in the lesser Dependencies have been conceded or sold with the exception of a few Islands in the St. Brandon Group, and one near the great Chagos Bank, which are leased. The islands are administered by two Magistrates who are resident in Mauritius and pay regular visits to the Dependencies. The chief exports from the Dependencies are coconut oil, coconuts, copra, guano and fish (dried and salted).

June, 1915.

J. MIDDLETON,

Colonial Secretary.

MAP OF THE ISLAND OF MAURITIUS

TO ACCOMPANY THE REPORT
ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1914.

Meridian thro' POUCE
57°34'E. Greenwich

I. aux Serpents

Round I.

Flat Island
Gabriel I.

Coin de Mire

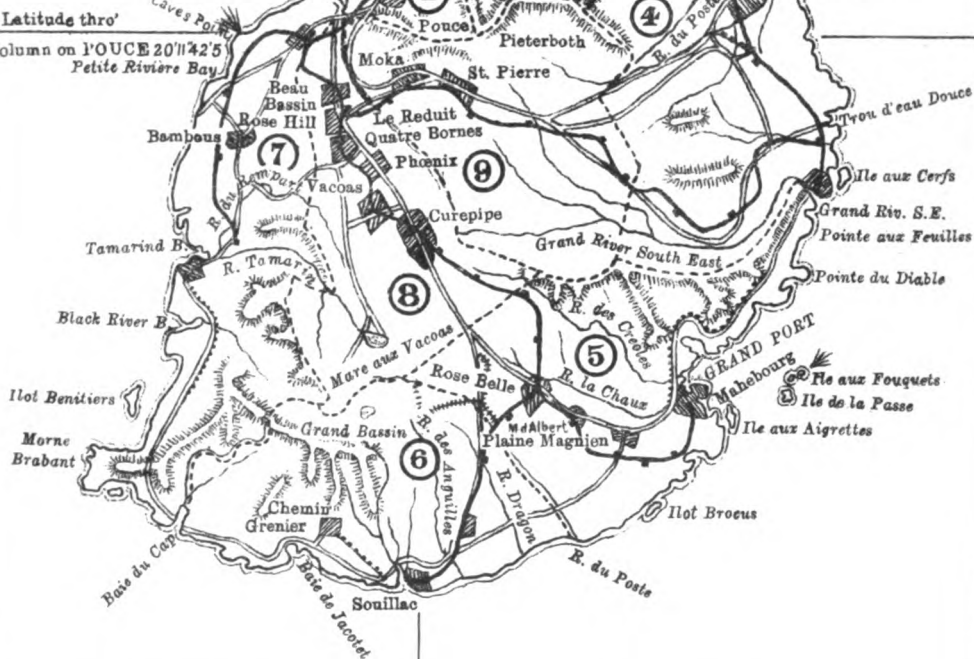
Cap Malheureux

Pointe
aux Canoniers

Scale. 8 miles to the Inch.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 MILES

Latitude thro'
Column on POUCE 20°14'25"



DISTRICTS

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1 Port Louis | 6 Savanne |
| 2 Pamplemousses | 7 Black River |
| 3 Riv. du Rempart | 8 P. Wilhems |
| 4 Flacq | 9 Moka |
| 5 Grand Port | |

REFERENCE

- Existing Railways & Telegraphs.....
- Railway Stations.....
- Other Telegraph lines.....
- Narrow Gauge Light Railway.....
- Main Roads.....
- Light Houses.....

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
841	Leeward Islands	1913-1914
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915
874	British Guiana	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

No. 876.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.



REPORT FOR 1914-15.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 841.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
February, 1916.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE

By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of

T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd. 8172-2.] Price 1½d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I.—FINANCIAL ✓	4
II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	5
AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES DURING 1914	7
III.—LEGISLATION	11
IV.—EDUCATION	11
V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	12
VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS	13
VII.—VITAL STATISTICS	13
VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES ..	14
IX.—GENERAL	14
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	15
CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT	15
ANTIGUA	15
ST. KITTS-NEVIS	16
DOMINICA	16
MONTSERRAT	18
VIRGIN ISLANDS	20

[Maps will be found in the previous Report, No. 841: [Cd. 7622-32.]

By Trade

1919

No. 876.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 841.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

29th December, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the financial year 1914-15, compiled by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. T. A. V. Best.

2. Although there was a small decrease of revenue as compared with the transactions of the preceding year, the general situation during 1914 was satisfactory. There was a considerable increase in the value of both imports and exports and in every Presidency trade showed a steady degree of expansion. Efforts were made to foster new industries and the prospects, in almost every direction, are encouraging.

3. As soon as possible after the outbreak of war the islands were organized for defence as far as circumstances permitted. A considerable amount of anxiety was felt so long as the enemy cruisers roamed in West Indian waters, but an excellent spirit prevailed among the members of the various defence forces, and it is certain that any attack on the islands would have been vigorously resisted. The Leeward Islands have contributed a serviceable contingent to the British West Indies Regiment, and every section of the population is anxious to assist the Mother country in every way possible.

I have, &c.,

H. HESKETH BELL,

Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1914-15.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The aggregate revenue of the various Presidencies constituting the Colony of the Leeward Islands during the financial year ended the 31st March, 1915, was £169,327 1s. 4½*d.*, showing a decrease of £5,129 11s. 5½*d.*, in comparison with the revenue for the year 1913-14.

The aggregate expenditure for the year 1914-15 (exclusive of that in respect of the Agricultural Department from Imperial grants-in-aid) was £189,370 6s. 6*d.*, as against £171,128 1s. 2*d.* for the year 1913-14, showing an increase of £18,242 5s. 4*d.*

The surplus of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1915, amounted to £65,471 4s., as compared with £84,282 1s. 2½*d.* on the 31st March, 1914, and was made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
*Antigua	5,745	14	4½
St. Kitts-Nevis	17,344	18	7
Dominica	25,499	17	4½
Montserrat.. .. .	14,465	18	3½
Virgin Islands	2,414	15	4½
Total	£65,471	4	0

* Exclusive of a floating liability of £250 due to the Imperial Treasury for excess of grants made in 1907.

The surplus of assets for the Island of Barbuda amounted to £2,473 18s. 8½*d.* on the 31st March, 1915, as compared with £2,178 10s. 5½*d.* at the close of the previous financial year.

The public debt of the Colony, secured on the general revenues of the Presidencies, amounts to £261,450.

MUNICIPALITIES.

The Government of the City of Saint John, Antigua, is vested in five Commissioners, under the control of the Governor in Executive Council. Two of the Commissioners must be persons not holding any office of emolument under the Crown.

There is also a Town Committee in Basseterre, St. Kitts, and a Town Board in Roseau, Dominica.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The total value of imports for the Colony of the Leeward Islands for the year 1914, exclusive of internal trade between the Presidencies, amounted to £603,565, as against £563,858 in 1913, being an increase of £39,707.

The total value of the exports, exclusive of internal trade, was £605,273, as against £577,256 in 1913, showing an increase of £28,017.

The following tables exhibit the value of the imports and exports, exclusive of internal trade :—

	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.	Total.
Imports	£ 165,226	£ 199,976	£ 195,593	£ 33,831	£ 8,939	£ 603,565
Exports	162,388	168,007	235,323	32,827	6,728	605,273

IMPORTS.

The following table exhibits the value of the imports for each of the last two years, distinguishing the countries whence the imports came, and showing the increase or decrease in 1914, as compared with 1913 :— •

Country whence Imported.	1913.	1914.	Increase 1914.	Decrease 1914.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	222,506	232,583	10,077	—
British Colonies ..	123,036	150,594	27,558	—
United States of America	181,381	174,787	—	6,594
Other Foreign Countries	36,935	45,601	8,666	—
Total ..	£ 563,858	603,565	46,301	6,594

EXPORTS.

The value of the exports during each of the last two years, distinguishing the countries to which the exports were sent, and showing the increase or decrease in 1914, as compared with 1913, is shown in the following table :—

Countries to which exported.	1913.	1914.	Increase 1914.	Decrease 1914.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	229,585	245,531	15,946	—
British Colonies ..	185,672	200,585	14,913	—
United States of America	79,783	125,518	45,735	—
Other Foreign Countries	7,130	33,639	26,509	—
Total	502,170	605,273	103,103	—

The value of the trade between the Presidencies for the years 1913 and 1914 was as under :—

Year.	Value.
1913	£45,833
1914	£35,879

Sugar.

The quantity of sugar exported from each Presidency during the year is shown below :—

	Tons.
Antigua	15,345
St. Kitts-Nevis	9,789
Montserrat	30
Total	25,164

Cotton.

The following is a return of cotton exported from the Presidencies of Antigua (including Barbuda), St. Kitts-Nevis (including Anguilla), Montserrat, and the Virgin Islands during the year.

	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£ s. d.
Antigua	164,740	8,574 5 10
St. Kitts-Nevis	775,713	48,482 1 3
Montserrat	181,137	12,047 2 1
Virgin Islands	31,164	1,973 6 0
Total	1,152,754	71,076 15 2

MANUFACTURES, MINES, AND FISHERIES.

Sugar is the principal manufacture in the Presidencies of Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis. In St. Kitts the distilling of rum is of some importance.

The staple in Dominica and Montserrat is lime juice. The production of citrate of lime in those islands is being developed. There is a sulphur mine at Soufriere, in Dominica, but it is not worked at present. Phosphate of lime is found in Barbuda, and phosphate of alumina in Redonda.

There is no recognised fishing industry in the Colony. Fish are caught for local consumption only, except in the Virgin Islands, whence large quantities are exported to the neighbouring Danish island of St. Thomas.

LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

The value of land in the Colony varies in accordance with its suitability for the cultivation of sugar-cane or other products. In

Dominica Crown lands can be purchased at 10s. an acre. In Antigua and St. Kitts the value of good cane-growing land varies from £4 to £8 an acre.

In Antigua there are over 2,000 acres of Crown land at Piccadilly, Red Hill, and the Ridge, on which there is much valuable timber. In the event of the erection of a sugar factory in that district, favourable sections of these lands will doubtless be taken up for the cultivation of sugar-cane.

SHIPPING.

Comparing the figures with those for the year 1913 there was an increase of 557,446 tons in vessels entered and cleared at the various ports of the Colony during the year 1914.

The following table shows the total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in each Presidency during the year, including both steam and sailing vessels:—

	1914. Tons.
Antigua	833,564
St. Kitts-Nevis.. ..	754,356
Dominica	650,144
Montserrat	350,577
Virgin Islands	14,625
	<hr/> 2,603,266 <hr/>

*AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES DURING 1914.

Sugar Industry.

In Antigua the rainfall during the year 1913-14 was, on the whole, moderately favourable, and resulted in fair crops being reaped in many localities.

In St. Kitts less favourable weather was experienced, the rainfall being everywhere decidedly below the average.

The exports of sugar for the year from Antigua amounted to a total of 15,433 tons, of which 11,432 tons were vacuum pan sugar and 4,001 tons muscovado.

Of the total exports of crystal sugar from Antigua 9,131 tons were produced at Gunthorpe's Factory in the form of grey crystal sugar.

The canes handled were of only fair quality, containing a relatively large amount of fibre; this accounts for the comparatively low extraction of sugar per cent. on the cane, which amounted to 11·00 per cent.

During the crop of 1914, 2,924 tons of peasant canes were purchased by Gunthorpe's Factory.

* By H. A. Tempany, Esq., D.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S., Supt. of Agriculture, Leeward Islands.

From St. Kitts the total exports amounted to 9,946 tons, of which 6,132 tons were crystals and 3,814 tons muscovado.

The Basseterre Sugar Factory in St. Kitts continued operations during the year, the quality of the factory work being well maintained. Owing to the limited area from which the cane supply is derived, it has never, up to the present, been possible for the factory to work up to the full limit of its capacity, which is estimated to be equal to a crop of 10,000 tons of sugar. During the year important extensions of the factory railway line have been carried out which will bring the produce of several large estates on the Windward coast to the factory, and, it is hoped, will enable the undertaking in future years to work somewhere in the region of its full capacity.

During the earlier part of the year sugar prices ranged round the low value to which they had declined during 1913, but on the outbreak of the war at the commencement of August a sharp recovery took place, owing to the withdrawal from the market of German and Austrian supplies of beet sugar; as a result the small amounts of sugar remaining unsold in the Colony at that time realised decidedly remunerative prices. Since then the prospect of the existence of favourable market conditions for some time to come has done much to improve the outlook of the industry.

Cotton Industry.

More than any other the Sea Island cotton industry has been adversely affected by the War. The consumption of the yarns spun from lints of this character, lying as it does largely in Belgium and the districts of Northern France at present occupied by the hostile Powers, has fallen practically to zero for the time being, except in so far as sales are effected with a view to increasing spinners' stocks.

In these circumstances a very serious blow threatened the prosperity of Montserrat, Nevis, the Virgin Islands, Anguilla, and Barbuda, which are dependent on the cultivation of cotton for their staple industry, while at the same time in St. Kitts and Antigua also, where the growth of the crop constitutes a secondary industry of considerable importance, the situation was calculated to give grounds for grave apprehension.

At the time of the outbreak of the War a certain amount of the previous season's crop had still not been sold, and to the problem of disposing of the new season's crop was added that of marketing these unsold remnants. In order to ease the situation arrangements were concluded by the British Cotton Growing Association whereby growers were enabled to continue to draw against unsold cotton at rates somewhat lower than those previously in force, while the Fine Spinners' Association continued to buy in small lots from time to time for the purpose of adding to stocks in hand with the object of assisting planters and also of providing occupation for their mills and workpeople.

After reaping, much of the crop was held in the West Indies for some months owing to lack of shipping facilities and apprehension on the part of owners that heavy losses might be encountered on account of warehouse charges on unsold cotton. By March 31st, however, the bulk of the crop had been shipped.

During December and January a representative of the Fine Spinners and Doublers' Association, Mr. J. L. Fonda, visited the principal cotton-producing centres of the Colony and held conferences with the principal growers at each place in the course of which the position and outlook of the industry were fully discussed. Subsequently the Fine Spinners' Association, acting in co-operation with the British Cotton Growing Association, agreed to purchase the whole of the crop during the season 1915-16 at fixed minimum prices for cotton of satisfactory quality. As the result of this action a greatly increased prospect of stability has been given to the position of the industry, and the outlook in many of the islands materially improved.

The exports of cotton for the year 1913-14 amounted to 1,221,494 lbs.

In the majority of cases the growing season for the crop of 1914-15 was moderately favourable, but, owing to the uncertainty of market conditions, appreciable reductions in the area planted were seen in districts where planting took place after the outbreak of hostilities.

While the usual attacks of pests and diseases were encountered these were for the most part dealt with according to prescribed methods and no great amount of damage was in consequence recorded.

Lime Industry.

In Dominica the lime crop amounted to 388,011 barrels. The total exports were valued at £187,031.

In Montserrat the lime industry has continued to suffer from the attacks of pests and diseases. Investigations in relation to these have been continued during the year. It is now tolerably clear that the trouble experienced is not due to one single cause but to a combination of factors combined with a series of unfavourable seasons.

Exports of lime products from Montserrat were valued at £14,751.

Cacao.

The exports of cacao from Dominica during 1914 amounted to 3,874 cwts.; this represents a decline of 686 cwts. as compared with the previous year.

In St. Kitts the small plantations at Molineux have continued to yield fair returns but elsewhere little attention has been devoted to the crop. On the whole there is little doubt that the total amount of land in the Colony suited to cacao cultivation is decidedly limited.

Coconuts.

In Nevis the pioneer plantation at Pinneys has continued to improve. The total area of the plantation is 200 acres of which about 100 are in bearing at the present time. During the year over 112,000 nuts were reaped from the plantation, while exports were valued at £410. The success of this venture has led to arrangements being concluded for planting considerable additional areas.

From Dominica 554,549 nuts were exported during the year.

In Antigua interest in the crop has been well maintained and considerable further plantations have been effected. In Barbuda about 80 acres have now been planted in coconuts by the Government.

In the Virgin Islands the work of planting up the coconut plantation demonstration plots adjoining the Experiment Station has been proceeded with and further extensions were effected during the year. The established areas are growing well. Considerable tracts of land exist in these islands which are eminently suited for development in coconuts, and in this direction there is little doubt that profitable expansion to a considerable degree is capable of being effected.

Onions.

An important feature of the agricultural work of the year has been the efforts made to develop the co-operative packing and marketing of onions in Antigua. The Antigua Onion Growers' Association, to which reference was made in the annual Colonial Report for 1913-14, has continued operations on extended lines during the year under review with markedly successful results.

The West Indian onion crop matures during the months of January, February, and March, at which time onions from other sources are difficult to obtain, and an almost unlimited demand exists for produce of good quality.

Maize.

Considerable further efforts were made during the year under review to foster the production of maize in the Colony; for the present these efforts have been mainly confined to Antigua although their effect has been already felt in other Presidencies to some extent.

As the upshot of experiments conducted during the year the Government of Antigua decided that the kiln drying, purchase, and sale of corn, together with the manufacture of cornmeal, should be undertaken on a commercial basis with the idea of fostering the development of the industry.

The effect of these efforts is already being seen in the shape of decreased imports of maize; apart from the local markets there appears to be considerable openings for trade in maize with other West Indian Colonies, while it is hoped that developments may eventually permit of a successful export trade being developed with America and England.

Other Industries.

The existence of war conditions and the consequent uncertainty as to how far supplies of foodstuffs from outside sources could be relied on gave a considerable stimulus to the cultivation of sweet potatoes and other provision crops during the year.

The cultivation of vanilla has continued to attract attention in Dominica and Nevis; once the difficulty of curing is overcome there appears to be opening for the cultivation of this product in favourable situations.

Attempts to develop the cultivation of bay trees for the production of bay oil have continued to attract attention in Montserrat especially, where systematic experiments in this direction have been conducted by the Agricultural Department for some years past.

Small quantities of papain and arrowroot have continued to be exported from Montserrat also, while in Antigua attention has been directed to the possibilities contained in the growing of vegetables for the Canadian market during the winter months, and a number of small experimental commercial shipments have been made to ascertain how far success is likely to attend such ventures.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Eleven Federal Acts and 36 Presidential Ordinances were passed during the year.

Of the Federal Acts, No. 5 consolidates the pension law of the Colony and No. 6 the laws relating to juries. Nos. 9 and 10 were the outcome of the War; the former created the offence of trading with the enemy and the latter provided for the issue of Government currency notes, but has not, so far, been brought into force by proclamation. Nos. 3, 7, and 8 were Acts to promote the revision of the Federal Acts, of which two volumes, revising the Acts from 1871 to 1888, have now appeared under the able editorship of Sir Frederic Maxwell, Kt., the Chief Justice of the Colony.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The number of children on the registers of the Government and grant-aided schools in the Colony during the year 1914-15 was 23,658, as against 26,514 in the year 1913-14. The average daily attendance was 11,258, or 47 per cent., as against 13,281, or 50 per cent., for the previous year.

The cost of elementary education was £8,165, of which £7,904 formed the Government grant.

St. John's Training School.

There is one industrial school in the Colony, viz., the St. John's Training School in Antigua, established under the provisions of the Leeward Islands Act, No. 4, of 1891, for the reformation, education, and training of persons under 18 years of age. The number of boys in the school on the 1st April, 1914, was 70.

The health of the school was very satisfactory. The boys were employed, as in former years, in agricultural and garden work, in addition to the various duties concerned with the indoor department of the school.

A practical effort has been made to fit the boys for a good start in life when they leave the school. A number of the most promising are now apprenticed to responsible craftsmen in St. John's, while still remaining inmates of the school. They receive a small wage, which is put to their credit and forms a fund to provide them with an outfit.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

In the year 1914, 3,713 patients, as against 3,827 for the previous year, were admitted into the hospitals of the Colony. There were 266 deaths, as against 354 for 1913.

There is a central lunatic asylum in Antigua. On the 1st January, 1914, there were 128 inmates.

There are two leper asylums in the Colony; one at Rat Island in Antigua, and the other at Fort Charles in St. Kitts.

In Antigua there were 39 lepers at the beginning of the year.

The number of inmates in the Antigua poor-house on the 1st January, 1914, was 101.

The approximate number of persons who received outdoor relief in the Colony during 1914, was as follows:—Antigua, 400; St. Kitts, 1,000; Nevis, 600; Dominica, 155; Montserrat, 98; and the Virgin Islands, 60.

The Alexandra Cottage Home for Incurables, Dominica, which is supported partly by voluntary contributions, maintained on an average 10 paupers.

The number of depositors in the Savings Bank on the 31st March, 1915, was 4,160, and the amounts at their credit £104,891; £41,344 was deposited and £37,917 withdrawn during the year.

The total amount of invested funds is £105,115.

The revenue amounted to £3,606 and the expenditure to £3,110.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The total number of persons in the Colony committed to prison during the year 1914 was 1,004 (527 males, 450 females, and 27 juveniles).

The number of committals in Antigua was 241, as against 221 in 1913.

Nineteen prisoners were transferred from the other Presidencies to the Central Prison, Antigua.

The following table gives the total number of offences reported during the year, together with the convictions and acquittals:—

Offences reported.	Convicted.	Acquitted.
13,432	6,338	7,022

4,231 cases were reported to the police, while 13,432 persons were brought before the magistrates. The number of summary convictions was 6,338.

The number of convictions in the Superior Courts was 58, 7,008 persons were acquitted in the Inferior Courts, and 14 in the Superior Courts.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The total population of the Colony according to the census of 1911 was 127,193.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The average rainfall in Antigua from January to December, 1914, on 72 stations, was 36·86 inches.

The average rainfall for the 41 years 1874 to 1914 was 44·25 inches, so that the precipitation for the year under review was 7·39 inches below the average.

The highest rainfall recorded was in 1889, when there were 73·59 inches, and the lowest in 1875, with 28·78 inches.

The highest maximum temperature was 91°, on 27th October and 8th November.

The lowest minimum temperature was 66°, on 7th January.

Three shocks of earthquake were recorded, viz. on the 10th and 15th October and 13th December.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

British and foreign mails are conveyed by steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company and the Quebec Steamship Company.

The mails are conveyed between Tortola and St. Thomas and between Tortola and Virgin Gorda by a sloop belonging to the Government, and by private boats, as follows:—From Tortola to St. Thomas about four times a week, and from Tortola to Virgin Gorda about six times a month.

There is a daily mail service by motor boat between St. Kitts and Nevis, and a fortnightly mail service by sailing boat between St. Kitts and Anguilla. A sloop is also subsidized by the Government of Montserrat to take mails and passengers between that Presidency, Antigua, and St. Kitts.

Antigua, St. Kitts, and Dominica are in telegraphic communication with each other, the other West Indian Colonies, Europe, and America by the cables of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company. There is no communication by telegraph with either Montserrat or the Virgin Islands. Messages can, however, be sent to Montserrat by flashlight via Antigua. St. Kitts is in heliograph communication with Nevis. A considerable reduction was made by the Company in the rates charged for messages. The reduced rates came into force on the 1st October, 1914.

Telephone services have been established in Antigua, St. Kitts, and Dominica. A telephone service is now being established in Montserrat.

The following statement shows the volume of the transactions of the Colony in postal matter during the year:—

Letters and Cards received and sent	881,265
Books and Papers received and sent	250,218
Parcels received and sent	17,443

The total value of money and postal orders issued in the Colony was £31,620 13s. 9½d., as against £24,172 1s. 11d. in 1913, and the total value of the orders paid was £28,078 11s. 8d., as against £27,078 in the previous year.

The net profit on the working of the Post Offices of the Colony was £6,708 18s. 7½d., as against £4,159 10s. 9d. in 1913.

In Antigua there are 195 telephone instruments in use, and 320 miles of wire; in St. Kitts-Nevis, 189 instruments and 411 miles of wire; and in Dominica, 158 instruments and 305 miles of wire.

GENERAL.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

The news of the outbreak of war and the various measures which had been prepared for such an emergency were received throughout the Colony with calmness and the loyal co-operation of all classes. Martial law was proclaimed immediately, but very little action had to be taken under it, beyond fixing the prices of food in some of the Presidencies.

On the 1st June, 1914, communication by flashlight was opened between Antigua and Montserrat and has continued working with very few interruptions ever since.

At the end of the year the rate of postage between the Colony and the United States of America was reduced from 2½d. to 1d. an ounce.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

His Excellency Sir H. Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G., was absent from the Colony on leave of absence from the 9th May to the 27th September, 1914, during which time the Honourable T. A. V. Best, the Colonial Secretary, administered the Government of the Colony; the Honourable W. D. Auchinleck, I.S.O., the Auditor-General, acting as Colonial Secretary; and Mr. J. D. Wall, Chief Audit Clerk as Auditor-General. Mr. Auchinleck also acted as Colonial Secretary while Mr. Best was on leave of absence from October to January. Mr. H. L. Humphrys, Chief Audit Clerk, succeeded to Mr. Wall's post on his appointment in December as Auditor-General of Tonga.

His Honour Sir F. M. Maxwell, the Chief Justice, was absent from the Colony on leave of absence from the 23rd November, 1914, to the 4th June, 1915, during which time His Honour F. H. Parker, 1st Puisne Judge, acted as Chief Justice.

In January, 1915, His Honour E. R. Drayton, C.M.G., retired from the post of Administrator of Dominica and was succeeded by Arthur W. Mahaffy, Esquire, formerly Assistant to the High Commissioner of the Western Pacific.

ANTIGUA.

The revenue of the Presidency for 1914-15 was £53,516 18s. 0d., exceeding the estimates by £38 and the revenue for the preceding year by £1,300.

The expenditure was £54,849 6s. 6d. or £649 more than had been estimated. This was £3,826 more than had been spent in 1913-14. The increase was mainly due to military expenditure and a gift of £1,000 to the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

In April, 1914, experiments were begun to ascertain whether maize grown and dried in Antigua would keep as well as imported maize. A Government corn dryer and sheller were erected and samples tested in various ways, resulting in the conclusion that local corn properly dried and stored in bins is better than imported corn and can be sold at a lower price.

Thanks to the generosity of the Rockefeller Foundation a thorough investigation into the prevalence and effects of Ankylostomiasis in Antigua was made by Dr. Eric S. Marshall. It was found that in certain districts a large percentage of the population were suffering from hookworm, resulting in much sickness and consequent loss both to the labourer and the planter.

*ST. KITTS-NEVIS.

The revenue for 1914–15 was £50,337, showing a decrease of £3,543, as compared with £53,880, of the previous year (1913–14).

The expenditure was £62,109, an increase of £7,049, as compared with the previous year.

The surplus funds of the Presidency on 31st March, 1915, were £17,345, against £29,117, in March, 1914. The reduction was mainly caused by a gift to the National Relief Fund of £5,000, and an expenditure of close on £3,000, for local defence during the War.

The total imports in 1915 were £201,277 as compared with £200,036 in 1914.

The exports were £173,754, a decrease of £29,872 as compared with 1914.

The decrease of the sugar crop owing to a long and continuous drought is the cause of this decrease of exports.

The total estimated population is 44,680, showing an estimated increase of 1,377 since the Census of 1911. 1,230 deaths were registered. Infantile mortality under one year accounted for 559 deaths.

The total number of patients treated at the hospital during the year was 834. Out of this total there were 72 deaths.

In the Yaws Hospital the total number treated was 177 ; all were discharged as cured. Treatment has had to be suspended and the ward closed for a time, as salvarsan, being a German preparation, was not procurable.

The general health of the population has been good. The people continue to be law abiding and loyal.

†DOMINICA.

The revenue for 1914–15 was £48,895, being an increase of £753 over 1913–14. The expenditure was £53,454, an increase of £5,972.

The lime crop for 1914 amounted to 388,011 barrels, or 3,196 below the record crop of 1913.

The fact that the output has been practically maintained is due to the new areas of cultivation which annually come into bearing.

Reference has been made in previous reports to the beneficial action of fungus parasites in controlling scale insects under normal climatic conditions. That a lime industry is possible in Dominica is largely due to the work of these parasites.

* By His Honour Capt. A. Roger, I.S.O., Acting Administrator of St. Kitts-Nevis.

† By Joseph Jones, Esq., Curator, Dominica.

The situation in regard to other pests and diseases is a less happy one. Root diseases are causing some anxiety, and their control will call for considerable effort on the part of planters. Mistletoe is rampant in certain districts, considerable damage being caused thereby. The love vine, another dangerous parasite, once scarcely known, is now reported to be appearing in new localities.

Considering the excellent prices realised by lime products for several years past it is unfortunate that cultivation on a large number of estates continues to remain in a poor condition, little or no attention being paid to the all-important question of manuring.

The exports of lime products during 1914 were as follows :—

Product.	Quantity.	Value. £
Concentrated lime juice	148,179 gls.	68,754
Raw lime juice	379,875 „	25,753
Raw juice cordial	4,966 „	564
Green limes	45,283 barrels	43,237
Pickled limes	572 „	572
Citrate of lime	5,191 cwt.	38,013
Essential oil of limes	3,984 gls.	4,176
Otto of limes	1,619 „	5,962
		<hr/> £187,031 <hr/>

The increase in values over the crop of 1913 amounted to £44,369.

CACAO.

The decline in the export of cacao is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Quantity. cwt.
1910	11,272
1911	10,055
1912	11,877
1913	9,560
1914	8,874

On the collapse of the sugar industry in the 'eighties of the last century, cacao was for a few years the leading export of the island, at which time it assisted in tiding the Colony over a period of great depression.

Concurrently with the development of the lime industry, the export of cacao also made slow headway for a number of years, but it is now realised that, owing to the concentration of capital and energy in extending lime cultivation, interest in cacao is becoming less each year.

***MONTSERRAT.**

The prosperity of Montserrat continued during the financial year ended the 31st March, 1915, which closed with a surplus of assets amounting to £14,466.

The revenue was £11,674 and exceeded the estimates by £879. This increase is accounted for under Head 5—Sale of Postage Stamps. As compared with the previous year, the receipts of 1914–15 decreased by £1,207, chiefly in customs, licences, excise, and post office, due to the absence of shipping facilities and general depression of trade owing to the War.

The expenditure—the highest on record—was £13,403, and exceeded the estimate of £10,479 by £2,924.

The items of expenditure which call for special comment are chiefly of a non-recurrent nature :—£376 for Military Expenditure ; £1,256 Contributions to War Fund ; £314 for the inauguration and maintenance of a Flash-Light Service between Montserrat and Antigua ; and £947 in advancing the Town of Plymouth Improvement Scheme. *The total value of the imports for 1914 was £37,903 and the exports £37,336, making the total trade of the Presidency £75,239, an increase of £1,068 over the previous year. The increase would have been larger had the usual facilities been available for shipping produce before the close of the year.

The direction of trade is shown by the following returns of imports and exports :—

RETURN OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1914.*Imports.*

United Kingdom	35	per cent.
British North America	24	„
United States of America	20½	„
Other places	20½	„

Exports.

United Kingdom	70½	per cent.
British North America	2½	„
United States of America	3	„
Other places	24	„

The health of the Presidency during the year was as usual very good. The number of births was 397 as against 364 in 1913. The number of deaths was 133 as against 216 in 1913. The birth-rate was 32·50 and the death-rate 12·53 per 1,000.

* By His Honour T. L. H. Jarvis, Acting Commissioner of Montserrat.

*AGRICULTURE.

The conditions prevailing in 1914 and the early part of 1915, resulted in fairly satisfactory crops of agricultural produce being obtained.

The cotton crop, in which the chief interest is centred, amounted to 382,522 lbs. of lint, of an estimated value of £22,000. This is the second largest output from the island since the reintroduction of this industry in 1903, and a return of 162 lbs. of lint per acre on an area of 2,350 acres is the third best average so far obtained. It may be stated that the record crop for the island, produced in the season 1910-11 was at the rate of 196 lbs. of lint per acre, compared with the smallest return obtained in 1908-09 of 99 lbs. of lint, the average output for the last twelve years being 135 lbs. of lint per acre.

April (1914) plantings fared better and yielded larger crops than the areas planted in the month of May, the latter suffering appreciably from the marked falling off in the rainfall in the month of August, substantiating the remarks in last year's Report that the manner of the precipitation of the rainfall for four months from the date of planting is the chief determining factor in the production of a good cotton crop.

Owing to the depressed state of the cotton market, subsequent to the outbreak of war, the bulk of the 1914-15 crop was not disposed of until late in 1915 at prices ranging from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3½d. per pound of lint, which, in the circumstances, growers consider to be fairly satisfactory.

In connexion with the relation of the environment to the quality of cotton produced, experiments conducted during the year, both with high priced St. Vincent and St. Kitts types of cotton, have shown that when grown alongside local strains of cotton, the former regress to the mean in value of the local types. Observations during the year have also shown that the cotton stainer as a cotton pest is deserving of a good deal more attention than it has hitherto received.

The actual exports of lime products in the calendar year 1914 might be considered to be satisfactory, but owing to the circumstances explained in last year's Report of a considerable shipment of the 1913 crop in 1914, it is necessary to compare the output over the last two years, in relation to the average output for the years previous. The exports of 1913 reduced to raw juice produced were 96,118 gallons and in 1914, 217,355 gallons, giving an average for the two years of 156,736 gallons as against an average output for the previous eight years of 236,362 gallons. The serious falling off in the production is thus shown. This is not due to short crops being obtained from healthy fields, but to the actual decline and death of trees, due to disease, over large areas. Curious to relate, the estimated value placed on the exports in 1914, due to the inflated prices ruling for lime products, exceeds that of any year in the history of the industry.

* By W. Robson, Esq., Curator, Montserrat.

A considerable impetus has been given to the cultivation of sugarcane on account of the changes brought about by the war, and it is estimated that an additional 500 acres have been planted for the 1916 crop.

The year 1914 is the first in which the bay tree (*Pimenta acris*) has been planted to an appreciable extent. Twenty thousand plants were distributed from the Experiment Station and this is sufficient to plant about 25 acres.

The production of the drug papain has been well maintained and a demand for larger supplies of the Montserrat product promises to increase the volume of exports in the near future.

Owing to the uncertain future of a remunerative market for Sea Island cotton, planters late in 1914 were obliged to turn attention to new crops in view of a curtailment of the area in cotton. Consequently preliminary trials in the cultivation of maize have been made on a fairly extensive scale and the crop has been disposed of to neighbouring islands with satisfactory results. Other crops that are under consideration and trial are various peas and beans. Though the situation was somewhat relieved later, by the guarantee of a minimum price of 1s. 2d. per pound for the 1915-16 crop of cotton, it is a healthy sign that planters are willing to continue trials with alternative crops.

*VIRGIN ISLANDS.

FINANCIAL.

During the year under review the revenue of the Virgin Islands was £4,903, being a decrease of £2,432 on that of the previous year and a decrease of £2,153 on the estimated revenue of 1914-15.

This decrease in revenue is accounted for by (a) a diminution in the sale of postage stamps, and (b) a diminution in the amount of cotton sold, together with the confiscation of a part of this produce at Hamburg at the opening of the European war.

The decrease under both these heads is undoubtedly due to the existing state of war in Europe and hence may be regarded as temporary.

The expenditure for 1914-15 amounted to £5,554, being a decrease of £482 on the previous year's expenditure and a decrease of £1,190 on the estimated expenditure for the year. Thus the result of the year's transactions closed with a deficit of £651, which, however, is offset by the fact that produce of 1914-15 to the value of £1,000 remained unsold in England at the close of the financial year.

* By His Honour Dr. T. L. E. Clarke, M.B. C.M., Acting Commissioner of the Virgin Islands.

The customs duties in 1914-15 amounted to £1,158, as compared with receipts under this head amounting to £1,142 during the previous year.

The total value of imports during 1914 was £9,081 and that of exports £6,905. The total trade of the Presidency thus amounted to £15,986, an increase of £288 as compared with the previous year.

An analysis of the returns shows the direction of trade to be as follows :—

Imports.

Danish West Indies	..	..	..	54 per cent.
United States of America	..	..	..	26 „
United Kingdom	..	..	..	17 „
Other places	..	..	..	3 „

Exports.

Danish West Indies	..	..	..	63 per cent.
United Kingdom	..	..	..	32 „
Other places	..	..	..	5 „

The total tonnage of shipping inwards and outwards during the year was 14,625 tons.

The health of the Presidency was, as usual, good. There were no quarantinable diseases and no epidemic.

The number of births was 206 as against 184 in 1913. The number of deaths was 95 as against 71 in 1913. The birth-rate was 36 per 1,000 of the population and the death-rate 16.

AGRICULTURAL.

The agricultural and commercial undertakings carried on at the Government Factory suffered a temporary setback, due to the fact that war caused a decrease in the demand for, and a consequent drop in prices of, cotton, the staple industry of the Presidency.

The exportation of cotton lint was 35,201 lbs. as compared with 55,307 lbs. the preceding year, and the number of gallons of lime juice exported was 741 as against 784 the preceding year.

The development of minor industries is proceeding with satisfactory results. A second coconut demonstration plot was established during the year, and the culture of this palm is being taken up by many of the peasants.

During the year an attempt was made to encourage the cultivation of onions with good results, an Onion Growers' Association being formed, which is co-operating with the Government in its efforts to foster this new industry.

A plot of bay trees, from which bay oil is distilled, has been established with a view to the establishment of a bay oil industry.

The rainfall was 55·18 inches.

T. A. V. BEST,

Colonial Secretary,

Leeward Islands.

29th December, 1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

A N N U A L.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
841	Leeward Islands	1913-1914
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	1914-1915
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1914
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	1914-1915
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915
874	British Guiana	"
875	Mauritius	1914

M I S C E L L A N E O U S.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

L O N D O N :
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK, S.E.

1916.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.



No. 877.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

REPORT FOR 1914—15.

(For Report for 1913—14 see No. 819.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1916.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

PRINTED IN TRINIDAD.

[Cd. 8172-3.] Price 8d.

(C245). Wt. 45316/1003. 1125 & 90. 3.16. B.&F.Ltd. Gp.11.2.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1914-15.



TRINIDAD :

PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, PORT-OF-SPAIN.

1915.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I. FINANCE	3
II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES...	7
III. LEGISLATION	15
IV. EDUCATION	16
V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	18
VI. JUDICIAL	20
VII. VITAL STATISTICS	21
VIII. MISCELLANEOUS RETURNS...	22
IX. GENERAL REMARKS	22

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO FOR THE YEAR 1914-15.

1. FINANCE.

1. The revenue of the Colony for the year 1914-15 was £934,524 and the expenditure £990,716, an excess of £56,192 of expenditure over revenue. The surplus balance stood on the 31st of March, 1915, at £44,026.

REVENUE.

2. The revenue of the year (£934,524) fell short of its estimate by £17,812 and showed a decrease of £36,265 on the receipts of 1913-14. The financial year opened auspiciously with the promise of fair sugar and cocoa crops and with increased activity in the oilfields, and as a result at the end of July the receipts from both Customs import duties and from excise showed a considerable increase on the figures for the same period of 1913-14. The outbreak of the war however, soon changed this, and it became necessary for the Government to consider the best means of raising additional revenue. Accordingly on the 27th of November, 1914, resolutions were passed in the Legislative Council increasing the excise duty on rum and the import duties on spirits and tobacco. The details of these increases are:—

Rum :

An increase of 1/- the proof gallon—from 8/6 to 9/6.

Brandy, Gin, Rum and Whisky :

Not exceeding the strength of proof 13/- the gallon in place of 11/6 the gallon.

Exceeding the strength of proof 13/- the proof gallon in place of 11/6 the proof gallon.

Rum :

The product of and imported direct from British Guiana or the British West Indies.

Not exceeding the strength of proof 10/- the gallon in place of 9/- the gallon.

Exceeding the strength of proof 10/- the proof gallon in place of 9/- the proof gallon.

TOBACCO AND SNUFF :

Unmanufactured :

Leaf containing 25 per cent. or more of moisture when dried at a temperature of 212° Fahrenheit 1½ the pound in place of 1,3 the pound.

Leaf containing less than 25 per cent. moisture 1/7½ the pound in place of 1/5½ the pound.

Manufactured :

Cigars 6/- the pound in place of 5/- the pound.

Cigarettes 5/6 the pound in place of 5/- the pound.

Other manufactured Tobacco 4/- the pound in place of 3/- the pound.

Later, on the 18th of December, an Ordinance No. 49 of 1914, was passed imposing the following export duties on produce exported during the year 1915 :

		s.	d.	
On Sugar at the rate of	...	3	0	per 1,000 lbs.
„ Cocoa „	...	0	2½	per 100 lbs.
„ Coconuts „	...	1	6	per 1,000 nuts.
„ Copra „	...	5	0	per 1,000 lbs.

3. The revenues of the last two financial years have been as under :—

<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>1913-14.</i>		<i>1914-15.</i>
Customs ...	£405,557	...	£382,825
Port, Harbour and Wharf Dues ...	14,852	...	12,818
Licenses, Excise, &c.	278,667	...	263,626
Fees of Court and Office ...	86,949	...	86,146
Post Office ...	10,349	...	9,923
Government Railway	114,467	...	132,668
Rent of Government Property ...	2,285	...	2,208
Interest ...	4,196	...	4,258
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	2,637	...	2,124
Land Sales, Royal-ties, &c. ...	42,244	...	33,212
Special Receipts ...	13,567	...	...
Emergency Funds ...	...	...	4,686

The principal decreases were under the following heads :—

Customs ...	...	...	£22,732
Port and harbour dues ...	...	...	2,054
Licenses, Excise, &c. ...	...	...	10,041
Fees of Court ...	...	...	803
Post Office ...	...	...	426

while there was a large increase of £18,201 under the head of Railway, and a sum of £4,686 was realized from the Emergency Funds Ordinance No. 49 of 1914, referred to in the previous Section.

4. The serious decline in the Customs revenue was chiefly due to the falling off in the exports of asphalt, £26,430 less having been received for duty in 1914-15 than in the previous year. There was an increase of £3,683 in the receipts from import duties, but this was due to the fact that the increased duties referred to above realized the sum of £8,422. But for these increases there would have been also a deficit under this head.

5. The large decrease under the head of Licenses is due to a recent change under which the revenue from spirit licenses is now brought to account at the beginning of a quarter instead of as previously at the end of the previous quarter. This caused an

apparent deficiency of some £15,430. The new law however, (No. 10 of 1914) providing for the licensing of vehicles produced £7,849. The revenue derived from Estate duties was £8,507 and that from Stamp duties £16,358.

6. The increased receipts from the Railway are attributable to the addition of some 36 miles of extension to the existing lines. The revenue from passenger traffic was increased by £4,153, that from goods traffic by £12,881, and £1,167 more was received from other sources.

7. There was a reduction of £5,529 in the sale of Crown lands, but no large revenue can be expected from this source while the lands are being exploited for oil. The proceeds of the licenses to cut timber on Crown lands were £6,574. The royalty on oil won under oil licenses and leases amounted to £8,968 and the Excise duty on oil used locally to £386. This Excise duty is the same as the import duty, namely, 4d. the imperial gallon.

8. The asphalt industry has been very seriously affected by the war and the loss in revenue from export duties and royalty during 1914-15 was £35,148.

EXPENDITURE.

9. The expenditure of 1914-15 (£990,716) was £25,509 in excess of the estimate and £38,734 more than the expenditure of the previous year.

10. The estimates were exceeded chiefly under the following heads :—

Public Debt Charges	...	...	£1,923
Pensions	...	...	549
Hospitals, Asylums, &c.	..	...	2,673
Prisons	...	...	553
Crown Agents	...	...	1,644
Miscellaneous Services	...	...	20,022
Public Works Extraordinary	...	...	7,105
Defence Scheme	...	...	12,928

but savings under other heads reduced the actual excess to £25,509 as shown above.

11. Owing to the exceptional conditions prevailing during two-thirds of the financial year the provision made in the estimates to meet the payment of interest on advances made by the Crown Agents on account of the loan of £739,016 authorized by Ordinance No. 16 of 1914 proved to be insufficient, and an

excess of the vote resulted as shown above. For the same reason the cost of maintaining the Hospitals and Prisons was larger than was anticipated, and the expenditure of £12,928 under the Defence Scheme, for which of course no provision had been made in the Estimates, was a further necessary result. The large excess under the head of Miscellaneous Services was caused by the expenditure during the year of a part of the grant of £40,000 made by the Colony for the purchase of cocoa for the Imperial Forces.

12. A sum of £1,142 was expended in the campaign against Ankylostomiasis. This expenditure is refunded to the Colony by the Rockefeller National Health Commission.

13. An expenditure of £21,538 was incurred under the Road Construction Scheme, and a similar sum was provided for the purpose from loan funds.

14. The revenue and expenditure of the last five years have been :—

Year.	Revenue.	EXPENDITURE.		
		Recurrent.	Extraordinary.	Total.
1910-11	£948,383	£843,050	£83,984	£927,034
1911-12	950,744	901,018	58,533	959,551
1912-13	932,513	893,499	53,722	947,221
1913-14	970,789	888,888	63,094	951,982
1914-15	934,524	923,284	67,432	990,716

The expenditure during this quinquennial period on extraordinary works has been £326,765.

15. It was anticipated when the estimates for the year were framed that the surplus balance of the Colony would stand on the 31st of March, 1915, at £67,636. For the reasons already given this expectation has not been realized and the actual balance was only £44,026. A large part of this balance is ear-marked to complete services authorised but not finished during 1913-14, and the actual balance available on the 31st of March, 1915, was £21,026, a more favourable surplus however than was considered possible when the current estimates were framed. The balance was then estimated at only £5,973.

16. The assets of the Colony on the 31st of March, 1915, were valued at £782,037 and its Liabilities at £738,011, shewing a credit balance of £44,026.

17. The Public Debt at the same date stood at £1,589,593, and the Crown Agents had also then made advances to the extent of £175,915 on account of further authorized loans. The total

indebtedness of the Colony was therefore £2,065,508, against which the several sinking funds had accumulated balances amounting to £249,350. Some part of this indebtedness had been incurred on behalf of local authorities, the Borough Council of Port-of-Spain being responsible for £348,082 and the San Fernando and Arima Water Authorities for £29,310. £80,000 were borrowed to effect the purchase of the Government dock.

II. —TRADE. AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

CUSTOMS.

18. The Customs returns are compiled for the calendar year 1914.

19. During the year the value of the entire volume of trade of the Colony was £8,384,638, a decrease of £1,789,395 on that of the previous year. The Imports were valued at £4,183,297 and the Exports at £4,201,341. These figures include the value of the bullion, specie, and goods transhipped. The figures of the last five years have been—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1910 ...	£3,343,011 ...	£3,467,588 ...	£6,810,599
1911 ...	5,018,848 ...	4,769,486 ...	9,788,334
1912 ...	4,682,325 ...	4,472,577 ...	9,154,902
1913 ...	4,968,360 ...	5,205,673 ...	10,174,033
1914 ...	4,183,297 ...	4,201,341 ...	8,384,638

IMPORTS.

20. The Collector of Customs points out that during the twelve months under review the Customs revenue benefitted by the more prosperous condition of the Colony consequent upon an exceptionally heavy cocoa crop and an increase in the production and value of sugar. As a consequence the import duties realized in 1914 £11,352 more than in 1913.

21. Of the imports, valued at £4,183,297, goods to the value of £2,888,532 were cleared for home consumption and £1,294,765 were imported for transshipment. As compared with the returns of 1913, this shows an increase of £59,982 in the imports for home consumption, but a decrease of £845,045 in the value of goods in transit.

22. Under the former head there was a large decrease (£169,685) in the importations of food, drink and tobacco, but there were increases aggregating £229,667 under other classes.

23. The values of the articles imported for home consumption were as follows :—

Live Stock	...	...	£ 61,558
Foodstuffs	...	...	1,093,614
Spirits	...	...	24,356
Wines	...	...	23,099
Malt	...	...	43,386
Tobacco	...	...	35,211
Opium and Ganja	...	...	5,117
Raw materials	...	...	285,874
Manufactured articles	...	...	1,168,616
Miscellaneous	...	...	21,676

Under these heads there were increases as compared with 1913 in the following :—

Live Stock	...	...	£16,843
Foodstuffs	...	...	54,232
Raw materials	...	...	40,876
Manufactured articles	...	...	72,446

while there were small decreases under the other heads.

24. The imports of articles for home consumption during the last five years have been :—

1910	...	...	...	£2,476,561
1911	...	...	...	2,668,673
1912	...	...	...	2,528,883
1913	...	...	...	2,774,640
1914	...	...	...	2,762,537

Of these in 1914 goods to the value of £708,002 were admitted free of duty under the following heads :—

Bullion and Coin	...	...	...	£126,175
Coal and Patent Fuel	...	...	...	184,106
Cocoa (raw)	...	...	...	187,468
Machinery	...	...	...	147,949
Manures	...	...	...	21,060
Government Stores	...	...	...	82,905
Sundry other free imports	...	...	...	58,339

25. The Collector of Customs has furnished an interesting comparative statement of the importations during 1914 of the articles on which the United Kingdom, Canada, and Newfoundland are allowed a preferential rate of duty. He states that in the absence of the necessary proofs of origin only goods to the value of £139,072 and £311,462 from the United Kingdom and Canada respectively were admitted at the preferential rate, the preference amounting in the one case to £2,205 and in the other to £12,180, a total of £14,385. He notes that with the exception of flour, fish, oats, &c., the preferential tariff does not appear to have had to any appreciable extent the effect of transferring the trade to the United Kingdom and Canada, and that while Canada has made no progress in supplying the Colony with the manufactured articles on which a preference has been granted, the concession has had but little or no effect in increasing the trade in

these articles with the United Kingdom. The statement referred to is given below :—

	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other Countries.	Total.
Bags, Trunks, &c. ...	£ 1,572	£ 484	£ 761	£ 2,817
Baskets ...	263	...	134	397
Biscuits and Bread ...	5,336	41	3,986	9,363
Boots and Shoes ...	23,029	27	25,133	48,189
Brooms and Brushes ...	1,577	998	306	2,881
Butter ...	12,074	423	26,040	38,537
Caoutchouc and Gutta Percha Manufactures ...	2,697	8	4,173	6,878
Carriages, Carts and Waggon's including Motor Vehicles ...	11,785	1,443	17,707	33,935
Cattle Food ...	722	2,457	21,335	24,514
Cement ...	6,568	1,074	13,678	21,320
Cheese ...	866	101	9,323	10,290
Calcium Carbide ...	67	652	275	994
Cordage and Twine ...	8,131	1,471	3,580	13,182
Fish, all kinds ...	19,130	61,440	8,966	89,536
Flour :—				
Wheaten ...	31	185,461	68,792	254,284
Indian meal ...	...	...	5,366	5,366
Glass and Glassware ...	4,072	8	6,157	10,237
Grain :—				
Oats ...	660	33,844	4,551	39,055
Beans and Peas ...	7,428	114	15,130	22,672
Other Cereal Foods ...	2,874	688	1,278	4,840
Hay ...	...	997	763	1,670
Jams and Jellies :—				
Canned fruit ...	2,100	33	1,233	3,366
Lard ...	141	...	51,164	51,305
Meats, all kinds ...	7,679	249	71,302	79,230
Metal Manufactures :—				
Nails, Spikes, Rivets, &c. ...	22,712	186	9,648	32,546
Milk, Condensed ...	31,810	1,114	8,828	41,752
Musical Instruments :—				
Pianos and Organs ...	3,797	...	1,157	4,954
Paints, Colours and Varnishes ...	9,423	1,178	2,262	12,863
Paper and Manufactures of Paper ...	12,901	1,200	8,136	22,246
Plate and Plated Ware ...	1,418	86	1,007	2,511
Soap ...	34,436	1,298	1,776	37,510
Starch ...	55	...	2,343	2,378
Vegetables, all kinds ...	2,612	2,876	24,872	30,360
Wood and Timber :—				
Dressed and Undressed ...	651	12,854	70,138	83,643
Shingles, Shooks, Staves, &c. ...	1,218	254	6,324	7,796
Wood Manufactures :—				
Furniture, Doors, Sashes and Blinds ...	6,400	4,841	23,551	34,792
Totals ...	£ 249,215	£ 317,819	£ 521,175	£ 1,088,209

26. The following table shows the countries of origin of the imports of the last five years :—

	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
United Kingdom ...	£936,427	£1,026,070	£914,502	£892,593	£998,837
Canada ...	134,609	190,287	190,769	256,435	325,374
Other Brit. Possessions ...	173,348	200,278	206,055	178,921	201,171
United States ...	860,908	818,921	819,432	813,718	852,988
Venezuela ...	233,086	294,257	211,873	468,658	290,401
France ...	62,932	66,619	67,786	61,183	60,027
Germany ...	38,279	48,260	32,721	40,179	35,940
Other Countries ...	156,285	122,706	121,005	116,866	123,734

27. An analysis of the returns shows that the United Kingdom supplied the larger part of the spirits, malt, manufactured tobacco, and other manufactured articles imported, while the United States and Germany are her chief competitors. The United States supplied

Wearing apparel	...	...	£ 11,267
Boots and shoes	...	...	20,941
Motor cars	...	...	10,057
Cotton manufactures	...	...	31,015
Hardware	...	...	21,588
Machinery	...	...	98,616
Iron and steel manufactures	...	...	9,267
Wood manufactures	...	...	21,262

The trade with Germany amounted to £35,940.

28. The value of the import trade from Canada has increased as shown in the table above by £190,765 in the last five years. This as the Collector of Customs points out is principally due to the preferential rate of 1/- the barrel on flour which has had the effect of transferring the trade in that article from the United States to Canada, the imports for the last three years having been

	1912.	1913.	1914.
Canada	£ 56,878	£ 126,356	£ 185,461
United States	160,406	118,394	68,778

29. The decrease in the value of the goods transhipped is due to the dislocation of trade by the war.

EXPORTS.

30. The total value of the exports was £2,906,576, comprising £2,484,576 the value of local produce, £396,728 articles re-exported, and £25,272 bullion and specie. The value of the Colony's produce was larger by £140,210 than in 1913, but there was a greater decrease under the other two heads, making a reduction in the export trade of £159,287. If to this is added the decrease in the transshipping trade the falling off in the exports as compared with 1913 amounts to £1,004,332.

31. The values of the local produce exported during the last five years have been :—

1910	...	...	£2,328,377
1911	...	...	2,078,152
1912	...	...	1,964,482
1913	...	...	2,344,366
1914	...	...	2,484,576

32. The quantities and values of the exports of local produce in 1914 were :—

Asphalt Crude	...	75,044 tons	...	£ 71,671
" Epuré	...	15,651 tons	...	31,905
Bitters	...	25,266 galls.	...	25,266
Cocoa	...	63,447,876 lbs.	...	1,469,893
Coconuts	...	15,571,407	...	66,132
Copra	...	2,358,154 lbs.	...	20,558
Fruit	...	...	...	5,537
Molasses	...	423,942 galls.	...	4,078
Rum	...	174,657 galls.	...	17,811
Sugar	...	48,088 tons	...	591,193
Petroleum Crude	...	12,153,781 galls.	...	61,755

33. The shipments of asphalt were almost stopped by the outbreak of the war, the European market being entirely closed and the United States, the principal consumer, taking only a very reduced supply. 79,963 tons less were shipped in 1914 than in 1913. There was also from the same cause a smaller trade in Angostura Bitters.

34. The Cocoa and Sugar crops were however excellent, the former being the largest on record while the latter was better than in any of the previous ten years. As shown in paragraph 32 the cocoa crop was 63,447,876 lbs. of the value of £1,469,893, and this was 5,589,236 lbs. larger than the previous record crop in 1910. The sugar crop was estimated at 58,000 tons of which 48,088 tons were exported. The total value of the exports of sugar and its by-products was £613,082.

35. The following table shows the volume and direction of the Colony's export trade, excluding transshipments, during the last five years:—

	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
United Kingdom ...	£599,240	£ 514,832	£540,903	£ 495,101	£572,271
Canada ...	354,484	206,133	220,088	174,991	346,496
Other Brit. Possessions	25,859	97,968	40,707	57,715	51,680
United States ...	919,047	1,045,507	940,911	1,392,786	1,104,480
Venezuela ...	84,641	76,044	72,846	66,413	39,005
France ...	483,211	277,313	261,552	504,207	464,160
Germany ...	102,844	96,435	96,785	137,417	84,487
Other Countries ...	126,120	191,306	210,603	237,233	243,997

36. The values of the Colony's principal exports to the United Kingdom were:—

Sugar ...	...	...	£ 267,185
Cocoa ...	...	...	182,084
Asphalt...	...	...	37,412
Rum ...	...	...	17,505
Petroleum	...	...	14,337
Copra ...	..	...	12,557
Bitters ...	...	...	10,314

To the United States—

Cocoa ...	...	...	£ 889,766
Asphalt...	...	...	78,929
Coconuts	...	...	55,728
Petroleum	...	...	26,724
Bitters ...	...	...	8,618

and to Canada —

Sugar ...	...	...	£ 320,402
Cocoa ...	...	...	19,397
Coconuts	...	...	5,625
Molasses	...	...	2,174

37. It is satisfactory to gather from the returns that the Island of Tobago continues to prosper. The value of the products exported during the last five years have been. :—

	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Cocoa ...	£ 20,885	£ 26,491	£ 20,252	£32,295	£30,844
Coconuts ...	1,938	8,008	6,833	6,938	4,183
Copra ...	1,926	1,299	2,683	1,593	6,357
Other products ...	18,421	18,836	18,464	19,443	19,099
	£ 43,670	£ 54,634	£48,232	£60,269	£60,483

SHIPPING.

38. The number of vessels entered and cleared during 1914 at the several ports of entry was 3,881 with a capacity of 3,778,346 tons. The number was 221 less than in 1913, but the tonnage was 41,739 more due chiefly to the larger number of British Steam vessels coming to the Colony.

39. The tonnage of the vessels entered was 1,903,018. that of the British ships representing 1,366,974 tons and the foreign tonnage 536,044 as under :—

British Steam	..	548	...	1,352,932 tons.
„ Sailing	...	314	...	14,042 „
Foreign Steam	...	369	...	501,948 „
„ Sailing	...	745	...	34,096 „

The number and nationality of the vessels entered were :—

	No.	Tons.
British ...	862	1,366,974
Dutch ...	108	154,403
German ...	34	79,108
French ...	48	78,619
Italian ...	22	60,499
Danish ...	28	45,284
Norwegian ...	40	44,595
Venezuelan...	772	23,738
United States	43	14,889
Spanish ...	5	11,422
Swedish ..	6	9,069
Brazilian ...	2	5,161
Belgian ...	3	4,898
Greek ...	1	2,901
Russian ...	1	1,024
Uruguayan...	1	439

40. The returns show that 79,867 tons of coal of the value of £89,039 were supplied to ships in the harbour.

AGRICULTURE.

41. With a favourable year as regards weather conditions the cocoa crop was larger than any previous one, 63,117,876 lbs.

having been reaped of the value of £1,467,893. It was distributed as under :

United States	...	...	...	31,304,260 lbs.
France	...	...	...	18,597,243 "
United Kingdom	...	...	...	7,310,166 "
Holland	...	...	...	1,986,882 "
Germany	...	...	...	1,694,350 "
Canada	...	...	...	709,296 "
British Colonies	...	...	...	73,160 "
Austria	...	...	...	700,650 "
Italy	...	...	...	387,324 "
Denmark	...	...	...	253,200 "
Belgium	...	...	...	89,200 "
Spain	...	...	...	74,345 "
Argentina	...	...	...	20,000 "
Other Countries	...	...	...	247,800 "

12. Representations were made to the Government that there was a danger of the American market being lost to the Colony because of the inferior quality of the cocoa recently shipped there, and the matter was considered to be of sufficient importance for the appointment of a Commission of Enquiry. It was found however that there were little, if any, grounds for the representations, outside of matters which could be, and have been, regulated by the commercial community itself.

13. Sugar too had a prosperous year 48,088 tons valued at £591,193. 174,657 gallons of rum of the value of £17,811, and 423,942 gallons of molasses of the value of £4,078 having been exported.

14. The great bulk of the sugar is manufactured for the refineries by the vacuum-pan process, the remainder being muscovado grocery sugar. The distribution was as under :—

MUSCOVADO.

United Kingdom	...	...	785 tons.
British West Indies	...	...	35 "
Venezuela	...	...	4 "

VACUUM PAN.

Canada	...	...	25,989 tons.
United Kingdom	...	...	20,746 "
Denmark	...	...	278 "
Germany	...	...	154 "
British West Indies	...	...	78 "
Venezuela	...	...	19 "

15. More than one-half of the molasses, namely 227,410 gallons, was exported to Canada.

16. The cane fields were remarkably free from the frog hopper pest which has done such damage in recent years. This is probably due more to climatic conditions than to remedial measures, though the experiments in these latter, which the Government has been making with the Planters' assistance, are being continued.

47. The coconut industry on the other hand did not do so well, the value of the exports having fallen from £85,369 in 1913 to £66,132 in 1914. This was due to the crop having been affected by the excessive droughts of the last few years. The number of nuts exported to the following markets was 15,571,407 —

United States	...	...	18,128,624
Canada	...	...	1,490,965
United Kingdom	...	...	809,210
British West Indies	...	...	137,408
British Guiana	...	...	7,000
Other British Colonies	...	..	8,300

48. The exports of copra, 2,358,154 lbs., went principally to the United Kingdom, and of coconut oil, 3,560 gallons, to the United States.

49. The Director of Agriculture reports that large areas both in Trinidad and Tobago are being planted up in coconuts, and that the exports may be expected in a few years time to largely increase.

50. The Board of Agriculture continues to encourage the smaller cultivators to avail themselves of the tuition of the Board's Instructors by offering medals and money prizes to the peasant proprietors and contractors who adopt the most improved methods of cultivation of their cocoa. The usual Primary School competitive shows of garden produce were also held in six centres, and the prizes were eagerly competed for. A home reading course is also conducted by the Department of Agriculture with satisfactory results, and twelve agricultural pupils are given free training at Government expense on its lands at River Estate, Diego Martin.

MINES.

51. On the 31st of March last there were ten Companies engaged in winning oil in the Colony, two of these having commenced operations during the preceding twelve months. The work done during the year was satisfactory 65 new wells having been drilled with an aggregate depth of 57,969 feet, 19,516 feet on private lands and 38,453 feet on Crown lands. Oil was struck in 38 of the new wells. The total number of wells drilled up to the 31st of March was 239, 112 of these being on Crown lands.

52. The amount of oil produced during the twelve months was 14,230,871 imperial gallons more than in 1913-14. The production of the last three years has been :—

1912-13	...	...	17,626,563 imp. galls.
1913-14	...	...	22,523,060 " "
1914-15	...	...	36,753,931 " "

53. The royalty collected on the oil won from Crown Lands amounted to £9,467.

54. Refining has not up to the present been carried on on any large scale, but several small refineries are in operation which produce petrol for the local market and for exportation to the neighbouring colonies. Several of the Sugar Estates now use the crude oil or its residue in their furnaces.

55. The two companies engaged in mining for Manjak continued their operations during the year, though at one time they were considerably hampered by the War. 479 tons were exported of the value of £1,994.

56. It is estimated that some 2,800 persons are employed throughout the year in the oil and mining industries.

CROWN LANDS.

57. 405 grants of Crown Land were made during the year comprising 2,508 acres of land, one town lot, and 108 village lots, the area sold being 810 acres less than in 1913-14. The amount received was £7,266.

58. Of these 120 grants were made to Indian immigrants covering 627 acres and 29 village lots.

III.—LEGISLATION.

59. Forty-one Ordinances were passed during the session of 1914-15. Several of these were rendered necessary to meet the conditions produced by the war. They were:—

No. 27-1914—To deal with Trading with Enemies of His Majesty.

No. 36-1914—To amend the above.

No. 37-1914—To regulate the winding up of business and other concerns of Alien Enemies of His Majesty.

No. 38-1914—To deal with the Censorship of Telegrams, Postal Packets and News during the present war.

No. 39-1914—For authorizing advances for the payment of agricultural labourers.

No. 49-1914—For raising certain Emergency funds for the period from 1st January, 1915, to 31st December, 1915.

No. 2-1915—To authorize the raising of money for railways, roads, and other public services by the issue of Government debentures.

No. 3-1915—To consolidate and amend the Trading with the Enemy Ordinances.

No. 6-1915—To amend the Alien Enemies Ordinance, 1914 (No. 37-1914).

60. The enactment of Ordinance No. 39 of 1914 became necessary to enable certain cocoa estate proprietors who until the outbreak of the war had been financed by alien firms to obtain money to pay their labourers. The scheme was worked by a Committee, which carefully investigated each application, and only authorized such advances from the Treasury as were absolutely necessary. It was an exceptional expedient to meet an exceptional condition of affairs, and undoubtedly helped to avert a rather grave crisis. The advances have now all been repaid, and the Estates are being worked under the usual conditions.

61. Ordinance No. 49 of 1914 imposed export duties on sugar, cocoa, coconuts and copra to meet the additional expenditure entailed by the war and an anticipated decrease in the receipts from Customs and Excise duties.

62. Ordinance No. 2—1915, which authorized the raising of a loan of £100,000 by local debentures for railways, roads, and other public works, became necessary to enable the work to be continued on the railway extensions and the road scheme which were being carried out by means of advances from the Crown Agents in anticipation of the raising of a loan. The value of the debentures issued is £72,760, most of which will apparently be required for the Railway extensions. The rate of interest is four per cent.

63. Another important enactment of the Session was Ordinance No. 24 of 1914, which revived the Municipality of Port-of-Spain. The former Borough Council was abolished in the year 1899 and in the interval the affairs of the town were entrusted to the management of nominated Commissioners who performed their duties in a most creditable manner. It was impossible however that the citizens of a town of the size, importance and progress of Port-of-Spain should long remain content with such a system of Government, and the Ordinance above referred to reconstituted the Municipality with a City Council consisting of the Mayor, five Aldermen, and fifteen Councillors.

64. Ordinance No. 40 of 1914 imposed for the first time a license fee on all vehicles throughout the Colony. Previously the licenses were only required to be taken out in the Boroughs and the fees varied considerably in these. The fees are now the same in all cases.

IV.—EDUCATION.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

65. There were 277 elementary schools established in the Colony on the 31st of March, 1915, 241 being in Trinidad and 36 in Tobago. 54 of these were Government Schools and 223 denominational Assisted Schools,

66. The number of scholars on the rolls was 51,497, 28,741 boys and 22,756 girls. The average daily attendance was 35,662.

67. The number on the rolls and the average attendances in each class of school were :—

	No. of Schools.	Nos. on Roll.	Average Attendance.
Government Schools ...	54	10,688	6,155
Roman Catholic Schools ...	83	15,486	8,763
Church of England ...	54	8,518	5,308
Canadian Mission ...	61	9,261	4,990
Wesleyan ...	12	1,468	896
Moravian ...	12	502	305
Baptist ...	1	173	83

68. Education is free, but not compulsory.

69. The Commission referred to in the last report, which was appointed to enquire into the system of education in the Colony, has completed its sittings, but has not yet furnished its report.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

70. The Queen's Royal College in Port-of-Spain, is the Government Institution for affording secondary education to boys and to it are affiliated the St. Mary's College, Port-of-Spain, for boys, the Naparima College, San Fernando, for boys, and the St. Joseph Convent, Port-of-Spain, for girls. The number of pupils at these institutions was

Queen's Royal College ...	...	...	179
St. Mary's College ...	...	...	281
Naparima College ...	...	...	73
St. Joseph Convent School ...	...	...	253

71. The College and its affiliated schools are annually examined by the Cambridge Authorities, the lower forms by the Cambridge University Examinations Syndicate and the Senior classes entering for the Cambridge Local Examinations. 476 pupils in the lower classes were presented for examination, and 133 in the Senior. The three scholarships of £600 which are annually granted by the Colony are awarded on the results of the examination of the seniors and this year one was taken by the Royal and two by the St. Mary's College. The passes numbered 99.

	Seniors.	Juniors.
Queen's Royal College ...	22	21
St. Mary's College ...	26	20
Naparima College ...	—	1
St. Joseph Convent... ..	3	6

Nineteen boys among the Seniors obtained First Class Honours, 11 from the Royal College and 8 from St. Mary's, and six among the juniors, two being from the Royal College and four from St. Mary's. One of the boys from the Royal College was awarded the prize of £8 offered by the University for the best junior in the Examination.

72. The total expenditure on education in 1914-15 was £68,316. Showing a small increase of £184 on the expenditure of the previous year. It was however larger by £3,951 than that of 1912-13.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

73. The Board of Industrial Training, appointed under Ordinance No. 14 of 1906, continues to do good work. On the 31st of March, 1915, there were 2,535 registered artisans, 118 registered masters, and 109 registered apprentices.

74. There are no technical schools in the Colony, but the Technical Committee of the Board endeavours to supply this want as far as possible. A course of instruction in farriery has been given to shoeing smiths and horseowners with marked success in several of the important centres of the Colony outside Port-of-Spain, including San Fernando, Sangre Grande and Princes Town.

75. The annual grant to the Board from the Government is £650, and it has also charge of a school for the instruction of the blind for which a grant of £75 for the current nine months has been voted by the Legislature.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS.

76. The Colonial Hospital, Port-of-Spain, with 320 beds, is the most important in the Colony. The number of patients admitted at this institution during the year was 4,161, the number discharged 3,758, and the daily average in hospital 255. The number of deaths was 669. Of those discharged 1,878 were cured 1,585 were relieved and 295 were not improved.

77. At the San Fernando Hospital which has 120 beds, 3,026 persons were admitted, 2,709 were discharged. The daily average in hospital being 108.

78. District hospitals are also maintained by the Government at Tobago, Arima, St. Joseph, Tacarigua, Couva, Princes Town and Cedros with an aggregate accommodation of 246 beds, while there are small temporary hospitals at Chaguamas, Sangre Grande, Mayaro and Toco.

79. There are two hospitals devoted entirely to the treatment of persons suffering from yaws, one in Trinidad and the other in Tobago. The former has accommodation for 200 patients and the latter for 160 patients.

80. The Lunatic Asylum in Port-of-Spain, contained on 31st March, 1915, 680 inmates, 417 males and 263 females, a decrease of 9— as compared with 1914. The number of admissions was 175, the number discharged 74, and the number of deaths 110. Of those discharged, 48 were cured, 16 relieved and 10 not improved.

81. The Leper Asylum, situated about two miles west of Port-of-Spain, contained at the close of the year 318 inmates, 236 males and 82 females, an increase of 18 as compared with 1913-14. The number of admissions was 110, discharges 15, and deaths 47.

SAVINGS BANKS.

82. Besides the head bank in Port-of-Spain there are 15 branch banks, one being in San Fernando, one in Tobago, and the others in the country districts.

83. At the end of 1914 there were 26,803 depositors with deposits to their credit amounting to £419,767, an average of £15.13 3 per head. There were 1,023 more depositors in 1914 than in 1913, but their deposits were less in the aggregate by £6,916. The chief decrease was in the town of Port-of-Spain where there were 101 fewer depositors and £5,185 less to the depositors' credit. This is to be accounted for by the fact that both the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada have opened Savings Bank branches and offer the same rate of interest as the Government does.

84. The deposits during 1914 amounted to £270,719 (these were exclusive of the accruing interest), and were £21,387 more than in 1913. The withdrawals however, were £288,683. At one time at the commencement of the war there was some panic resulting in large withdrawals from the bank which rendered it necessary for the Government to make it considerable advances. This, however, was not of long duration, and the bank soon resumed its normal business.

85. The East Indian depositors number 12,421 with £137,770, or an average deposit of £11 1 10, to their credit. The number of this class of depositor increased by 1,070 and their deposits by £1,984 during the year. The returns show that from year to year the East Indian population continues to make a gradually increasing use of the bank. The number of depositors has doubled in the last ten years.

86. The cost of working the banks amounted to £2,912, and the interest payable to depositors to £12,414. The investments amount to £133,321, but the approximate value of the securities is at present only £374,544.

87. The persons making most use of the banks are:—

Labourers	...	...	12,039
Artisans	...	...	1,737
Planters	...	...	1,650
Domestic Servants	...	...	1,165
Seamstresses	...	...	984
Mercantile Clerks	...	...	851

Two hundred and forty-four Friendly Societies keep their money in the banks.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

88. The total number of offences reported to the Constabulary during the year 1914-15 was 22,948, 2,939 less than in the previous year.

89. The number of persons brought before the Magistrate's Courts in respect of these offences was 28,302, a decrease of 1,011 in 1914-15.

90. These were dealt with as under :—

Discharged for want of prosecution	...	...	6,733
Discharged on the merits	...	...	3,798
Summarily convicted	...	...	17,497
Committed for trial in the Supreme Court	...	...	274

91. There were 1,231 less summary convictions in 1914-15 than in 1913-14. The offences were classed as follows :—

	1913-14	1914-15
Offences against the person	2,787	2,871
Malicious injury to property	...	48
Prædial Larceny	155	225
Offences against property other than malicious injuries to property and prædial larceny	1,326	1,334
Offences against Revenue, Municipal, &c., Laws	6,438	3,549
Offences against Masters and Servants Acts	2,901	2,970
Other offences...	5,121	6,500

92. 250 persons were indicted in the Supreme Court during 1914-15 with the following results :—

Judgment for the Crown...	...	131
Judgment for the prisoner	...	87
Prisoner found insane	...	2
Cases discharged on <i>nolle prosequi</i>...	...	30

93. The convictions were under the following heads :—

Murder	...	6
Attempt to murder	...	4
Manslaughter...	...	4
Rape	...	2
Unlawful Crime	...	2
Offences against the person	...	83
Offences against property	...	86
Other offences	...	17

Fifty-four less persons were convicted in the Supreme Court in 1914-15 than in 1913-14.

PRISONS.

94. The number of prisoners of all classes committed to prison during 1914-15 was 4,613 being 833 less than in the previous year. Of this number 4,073 were males (including 34 juveniles) and 570 females (including 11 juveniles).

95. The daily average number in prison was 681 : 636 men and 45 women. This is a decrease of 55 on the average of 1913-14.

96. The cost of the Prisons establishment continues to grow partly in consequence of the increase in numbers but chiefly as the result of the larger contract prices which have to be paid for supplies. In 1914-15 the expenditure was £13,905, being £252 more than in 1913-14. £464 were paid into the Treasury as the proceeds of the prisoners' labour, but the value of their labour was far more than this, being estimated at some £9,862.

97. The Probation of First Offenders Ordinance is administered in a very satisfactory manner by four officers of the Salvation Army who receive a grant of £140 per annum for the work. A gentleman who has volunteered for service in connection with the Roman Catholic probationers in Port-of-Spain has also been appointed a Probation Officer.

REFORMATORIES AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

98. The Boys' Reformatory Diego Martin, contained, on the 31st March, 1915, 148 inmates, 41 were admitted during the year, and 28 were discharged and one died. In addition to the Government grant of £22,297 the institution earned £683 while the expenditure was £2,858.

99. The Girls' Reformatory, Belmont, had 28 inmates. Seven were admitted during the year, and nine were discharged. The revenue for the year amounted to £540, of which sum £268 was self-earned.

100. The Tacarigua Industrial School, under the management of the Church of England, had 168 inmates. Nineteen were admitted during the year, 10 discharged, 1 absconded, 1 sent to Reformatory, and 1 died. The Government grant to the Institution amounted to £1,675.

101. The Belmont Industrial School, under the Roman Catholic Church, had, at the end of the year, 186 inmates. Fifteen were admitted during the year, 20 discharged, and 3 died.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

102. The estimated population on the 31st March, 1915, was 359,527 in the proportion of 187,926 males and 171,601 females. During the year 1914-15 there were 11,855 births and 8,327 deaths, giving a birth-rate of 33·34 and a death-rate of 23·41 per thousand of the population. 1,281 marriages were registered during the year.

103. The immigrants introduced from India numbered only 113, the usual recruiting having been suspended for want of transport facilities.

VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS RETURNS.

104. The ecclesiastical grant of £10,600 is divided among the several churches in the proportion of their adherents. The returns of the last census have fixed the distribution as under:—

Roman Catholic Church	...	...	£1,896
Church of England	...	...	4,155
Wesleyan Church	...	...	571
Presbyterian Church	...	...	395
Moravian Church	...	...	326
Baptist Church	...	...	257

The two principal churches have Cathedrals in Port-of-Spain, and the total number of places of worship is

	<i>Trinidad.</i>	<i>Tobago.</i>
Roman Catholic Church	81	5
Church of England	59	13
Wesleyan Church	16	...
Presbyterian Church	71	...
Moravian Church	5	7
Baptist Church	16	1

Accommodation is provided in these for 54,558 persons.

105. No Indian Immigrants were repatriated in 1914. The immigrants in the Colony are able to make remittances through the Post Office to their relatives in India and avail themselves of this to a considerable extent. The remittances during the last ten years have been —

1905	...	...	...	£3,413
1906	...	...	...	2,873
1907	...	...	...	3,227
1908	...	...	...	3,492
1909	...	...	...	3,800
1910	...	...	...	3,990
1911	...	...	...	3,625
1912	...	...	...	3,732
1913	...	...	...	4,535
1914	...	...	...	4,521

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

106. The year 1914–15 opened favourably with the prospect of good returns from the Colony's staple products, which would it was hoped compensate for the damage done by the droughts of previous years; but the conditions resulting from the outbreak of the war prevented this anticipation from being realized.

107. Immediately on the receipt of the news of the declaration of war the steps laid down in the Defence Scheme for the protection of the Colony were taken, and the Order in Council of the 26th of October, 1896, which had recently been made applicable to this Colony, and which in time of war confers extensive powers upon the Governor, was proclaimed.

108. At first there was some panic with regard to the food supply, but a Committee was appointed to advise the Government as to the reasonable prices to be proclaimed under the Order in Council above referred to, and the prices having been so fixed and proclaimed, generally on an increase of about 33 per cent., there has been little or no trouble since. A few shopkeepers have however been prosecuted and fined for endeavouring to evade the terms of the proclamation.

109. The same Committee has also from time to time advised the Government as to the restrictions to be placed on the exportation of sugar, each producer being required to keep a certain proportion of his crop for sale in the Colony. To enable control to be exercised over the shipments all exportation of sugar is prohibited except under the Governor's permit.

110. There was also some considerable anxiety felt with regard to the payment of the wages of certain of the Estates' labourers, and as has been explained previously, it became necessary to legislate to enable the Government to make advances for the purpose, the advances becoming a first charge on the Estate. Seventy-seven estates were financed for a time under this scheme, the amount advanced to them being £9,972, and the rate of interest charged being ten per cent. By the 31st of March last however, all advances with interest, had been repaid, and the expedient is now no longer necessary.

111. With the object of endeavouring to lessen the cost of food to the people, a third Committee was appointed to endeavour to encourage the growing of ground provisions. There has not up to the present been any very appreciable result from the labours of this Committee, but it has done good work in arranging for the transport to market of the produce of the smaller proprietors in the outlying districts, and in encouraging the people to take advantage of the offers made by the Government and others to rent land on easy terms for the cultivation of ground provisions.

112. The Colony made a grant of £40,000 for the purchase of Cocoa for the Navy and Army, and considerable sums were raised by private subscription in aid of the various patriotic funds. The Colony has also voted the necessary amount to meet the cost of sending a Contingent of 100 to 500 men to England.

113. By the liberality of Mr. Rockefeller the National Health Commission has during the past year waged a vigorous campaign in this Colony against Ankylostomiasis, with very encouraging results. The disease is known to be very prevalent here, many of the newly imported immigrants from India being found to be infected with it, and it is certainly the cause of many cases of illness and incapacity among the agricultural labouring population. The people however appear to be readily willing to avail themselves of the advice and help of the Commission, and it is hoped that

with this and the provision on the Estates, and elsewhere, of proper latrine accommodation the disease will be kept under proper control. An endeavour is being made to arrange for the treatment for it of the emigrants from India to the Colony at the depôt at Calcutta before embarkation and also during the voyage.

114. In November, 1914, an impressive Ceremonial Service was held in the Trinity Cathedral of Port-of-Spain on the occasion of the death of the late Field Marshal Earl Roberts. It was attended by the Governor and his Staff and thousands of others.

115. On the 5th of March, 1915, a disastrous Railway collision occurred on the Government Railway which unfortunately resulted in the deaths of several passengers and the injury of many others. In connection with the accident sixty-one claims have been made for compensation which the Government has endeavoured to settle liberally. In thirty-four cases the offers of the Government have been accepted at a cost of £5,300, but twenty-seven claims remain to be dealt with, though in no case has the offer made been finally rejected.

116. The Secretary of State for the Colonies has authorized this Government to revert to the former practice of framing its estimates and other financial returns for the calendar year. To give effect to this decision the current Estimates have been framed for the nine months April–December, 1915.

117. Maps of the Islands of Trinidad and Tobago are appended.

S. W. KNAGGS,
Colonial Secretary.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO,
10th August, 1915.

1. 凡在本市行政区域内，凡从事生产、经营活动的法人、其他组织和个人，均应当依法缴纳地方教育附加。
 2. 地方教育附加的征收范围包括：
 (一) 增值税；
 (二) 消费税；
 (三) 营业税；
 (四) 企业所得税；
 (五) 个人所得税；
 (六) 房产税；
 (七) 车船税；
 (八) 城镇土地使用税；
 (九) 契税；
 (十) 其他依法征收的税种。
 3. 地方教育附加的征收比例按照下列规定执行：
 (一) 增值税、消费税、营业税、企业所得税、个人所得税、房产税、车船税、城镇土地使用税、契税等税种，按照其应纳税额的百分之二征收；
 (二) 其他依法征收的税种，按照其应纳税额的百分之五征收。
 4. 地方教育附加的征收机关为地方税务机关。
 5. 地方教育附加的征收期限按照有关规定执行。
 6. 地方教育附加的征收管理按照《中华人民共和国税收征收管理法》及其实施细则的有关规定执行。
 7. 地方教育附加的征收使用按照《地方教育附加征收使用管理办法》的有关规定执行。
 8. 地方教育附加的征收使用应当坚持公开、公平、公正的原则，不得随意减免。
 9. 地方教育附加的征收使用应当接受财政、审计等部门的监督检查。
 10. 地方教育附加的征收使用应当纳入地方财政预算管理。

[illegible]

17. 31. 1951

SECRET

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Wei-hai-wei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915
874	British Guiana	"
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914-1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

LIBRARY
MAY 12 1916

No. 878.

NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1914.

For Report for 1913 see No. 821 (Northern Nigeria) and
No. 825 (Southern Nigeria).

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

April, 1916.



L O N D O N :

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE.

By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or

E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;

or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of

T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd. 8172-4.] Price 4d.

Dep. U of L
L 61

CONTENTS.

<hr style="width: 10%; margin: 0 auto;"/>								PAGE.
FINANCIAL POSITION—								
REVENUE								4
EXPENDITURE								5
ASSETS AND PUBLIC DEBT.. .. .								6
FINANCES OF THE NATIVE ADMINISTRATIONS								6
 TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES—								
IMPORTS AND EXPORTS								7
MINING								9
MANUFACTURES								10
FISHERIES								10
AGRICULTURE								10
FORESTRY								12
LANDS								13
SHIPPING								14
LEGISLATION								16
EDUCATION								17
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS								18
JUDICIAL STATISTICS								19
PRISONS								21
VITAL STATISTICS								22
SANITATION								25
VETERINARY								26
METEOROLOGY								27
MILITARY FORCES AND OPERATIONS.. .. .								27
RAILWAY								30
LAGOS HARBOUR WORKS								32
MARINE SERVICES								33
PUBLIC WORKS								34
 GENERAL INFORMATION—								
AMALGAMATION								35
POLICY OF ADMINISTRATION								37
JUDICIAL								40
CUSTOMS AND FISCAL FRONTIERS								42
THE WAR								42
OTHER EVENTS								44
APPENDIX								
Statement showing the Importation of Spirits, 1910-1914 ..								53
 MAP OF NIGERIA, 1914.								

No. 878.

NIGERIA.

For Report for 1913 see No. 821 (Northern Nigeria) and
No. 825 (Southern Nigeria).

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Nigeria,

26th January, 1916.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on Nigeria for the year 1914, in the preparation of which I have received the greatest possible assistance from Mr. Cameron, Central Secretary. I regret the unusual length to which this report has extended. It is primarily due to the unusual importance of the events of the year under review, which has witnessed the amalgamation of the two Administrations of Northern and Southern Nigeria into a single Government, and the outbreak of war in Europe (with its consequential war in the Cameroons).

I have, &c.,

F. D. LUGARD,

Governor-General.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, P.C., M.P.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1914.

FINANCIAL.

The amalgamation of Southern and Northern Nigeria, to which more extended reference will be made in a subsequent paragraph, took effect on the 1st January, 1914, and the accounts of Nigeria are presented as a whole, for the first time, in this report.

The following is a comparative table of revenue for the years 1913 and 1914.

HEADS OF REVENUE.	1913.			1914.
	Southern Nigeria.	Northern Nigeria.	Total.	Nigeria.
	£	£	£	£
1. Licences and Internal Revenue	18,012	29,281	47,293	78,483
2. Fees of Court, etc. ..	74,168	65,029	139,197	109,237
3. Customs	1,772,619	..	1,772,619	1,505,712
4. Marine	32,129	..	32,129	68,344
5. Railway	632,130	..	632,130	695,502
6. Interest	109,544	..	109,544	72,200
7. General Tax .. ..	..	545,902	545,902	299,002
8. Posts and Telegraphs	18,651	11,566	30,217	42,899
9. Rent of Government Property	3,265	3,832	7,097	6,477
10. Miscellaneous	7,519	2,700	10,219	20,815
11. Non-recurrent	160	..	160	49,710
12. Imperial Grant-in-Aid ..	..	136,000	136,000	100,000
	2,668,197	794,310	3,462,507	3,048,381

It will be observed that the revenue of Nigeria for 1914 fell short of the combined revenues of Southern Nigeria and Northern Nigeria for the previous year by a sum of £414,126, of which approximately £167,000 may be said to be due to the outbreak of war, and £247,000 to the exclusion of the Native Administration revenue from the general estimates.

There was a decrease of £266,907 under the head Customs, due to a diminished volume of trade owing to the war.

The increase of £36,215 under Marine is accounted for by the imposition of the Lagos harbour dues in 1914.

Notwithstanding the period of trade stagnation from the outbreak of war to the end of the year, the revenue from the railway showed an increase of £63,372 over the previous year.

There was a very large decrease of £246,900 under general tax, due to the exclusion from the Protectorate estimates of the share of the direct taxation in the Northern Provinces which is assigned to the Native Administrations and which had in the previous year appeared as part of the revenue of Northern Nigeria.

The following table gives the expenditure for 1914 as compared with the previous year :—

	1913.			1914.
	Southern Nigeria.	Northern Nigeria.	Total.	Nigeria.
	£	£	£	£
Public Debt	354,037	13,300	367,337	343,633
Governor-General	5,808	5,337	11,145	10,062
Treasury	15,021	7,180	22,201	26,450
Judicial	23,226	3,086	26,312	11,408
Customs	47,570	..	47,570	49,708
West African Frontier Force	123,127	150,250	273,377	222,925
Marine	228,728	..	228,728	216,870
Railway	499,259	..	499,259	709,936
Pensions	22,222	5,626	27,848	32,042
Lieutenant-Governor .. ..	..	..	..	8,461
Secretariat	16,086	9,891	25,977	28,809
Political	97,422	95,528	192,960	227,104
Magistracy .. ..	..	..	..	6,230
Legal	4,383	..	4,383	9,229
Posts and Telegraphs	54,798	25,266	80,064	87,377
Audit	11,037	4,212	15,249	16,136
Printing	10,566	3,273	13,839	14,173
Police	50,288	28,593	78,881	85,060
Volunteers	1,220	..	1,220	..
Prisons	47,702	10,168	57,870	58,048
Forestry	20,600	965	21,565	22,172
Agriculture	12,163	4,002	16,165	18,191
Medical	76,622	37,928	114,550	123,305
Medical Research Institute	1,378	..	1,378	1,768
Laboratory	684	..	684	736
Sanitary	10,634	2,731	13,365	15,975
Education	33,280	6,118	39,398	47,900
Survey	25,426	6,310	31,736	46,867
Mineral Survey	2,934	..	2,934	..
Mines .. ..	..	13,397	13,397	5,268
Lands	1,928	..	1,928	2,848
Transport .. ..	..	14,018	14,018	..
Miscellaneous	73,154	9,781	82,935	94,892
Public Works	55,082	12,809	67,891	72,884
Public Works—Recurrent	39,623	16,313	55,936	50,022
Public Works—Extraordi- nary	85,502	63,484	148,986	147,515
Public Works and Railway Extraordinary .. ..	..	..	..	153,835
Eastern Railway	44,801	..	44,801	628,925
Grants to Native Adminis- tration .. ..	..	270,924	270,924	..
	2,096,311	820,490	2,916,801	3,596,764

The large increase of £210,677 under Railway was due to a larger programme of capital expenditure in 1914 than in the previous year (especially to the provision of rolling stock) and to increased working expenses owing to increased traffic.

Under Public Works and Railway Extraordinary are included the expenditure on the railway extension to Bukuru (the centre of the tin mining industry), £88,637, and on the new railway headquarters and shops at Kaduna, £49,401, both of which are referred to at greater length under the Railway Section of this report.

The sum of £628,925 is shown as brought to account in 1914 in connection with the construction of the Eastern Railway. The sum of £1,029,667 was actually expended on this new railway during the year, the balance of £400,742 remaining on suspense account in respect of materials and stores paid for but not issued to the works before the end of the year.

The deficit of £548,383 on the year's working—due entirely to the expenditure on the construction of the Eastern Railway—has been met, as was intended, from the surplus balances of the Colony and Protectorate.

There was no important change in taxation during the year. The general tax in the Northern Provinces yielded £208,347 in 1914 against £214,518 in 1913. The falling off may be ascribed to the dearth of political officers owing to the war. The incidence of the tax is still very light and varies from 6*d.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*

There was an excess of assets over liabilities of £1,273,000 at the end of the year, as compared with £1,821,383 at its commencement, the decrease being due, as shown above, to the expenditure on the Eastern Railway.

The public debt at the end of the year stood at £8,267,569. The money was borrowed in 1905, 1908, and 1911, and has been expended on the construction and equipment of the railway (Western), the Lagos Harbour (moles and wharves) and the Lagos water supply. Provision is duly made each year according to law for the instalments due to the sinking fund, which on the 31st December amounted to £191,042.

No changes affecting the currency were made during the year. The new West African currency continued to prove satisfactory.

The Native Administrations in the Northern Provinces, which derive the bulk of their revenue from the system of taxation described at some length in the report on Northern Nigeria for last year, had at their credit at the end of the year surplus funds amounting to £72,224, of which £54,650 was invested in England.

Their total revenue and expenditure has been as follows:—

				Revenue.	Expenditure.
				£	£
1911-12	..	..	..	197,296	116,560
1912*	..	..	..	146,101	132,761
1913	..	..	..	325,052	252,085
1914	..	..	..	326,508	319,940

*April to December only.

The accounting for these large funds has been done more and more each year by the native officials themselves, and the results are increasingly satisfactory.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The rapid expansion in trade commented on in previous reports has naturally been checked by the War, as Germany provided a market for 44 per cent. of the produce of Nigeria. German ships carried a substantial proportion of the tonnage and a large amount of German capital was employed in the trade. It is hoped that the check will be a temporary one only. The people of Nigeria are by nature very keen traders and agriculturists. Means of communication are being improved continuously, and increasing quantities of produce are being absorbed at good prices in British markets. Local prices, which ruled low for some months after the outbreak of war, were at the end of the year nearly as high as before the war, and German trade is being diverted into the hands of British merchants.

The chief imports in 1914 were as follows as compared with the previous year. The values given are the invoice prices at port of shipment :—

	1913. £	1914. £
Fish	134,998	109,625
Grain and Flour	125,192	131,527
Kola Nuts	117,324	155,144
Spirits.. .. .	452,939	347,796
Tobacco, Cigars, &c.	230,962	192,473
Cutlery, Hardware, &c.	154,857	153,211
Cotton piece goods	1,529,361	1,392,654

The United Kingdom continued to furnish and even increased the supply of furniture, soap, glassware, hardware, &c., but there were naturally substantial reductions in the supplies taken by German firms from the United Kingdom of articles such as cotton piece goods, cooper's stores, yarn, corrugated iron, &c.

The principal exports were as follows as compared with 1913. The values given are those at the port of export :—

	1913. £	1914. £
Cocoa	157,480	171,751
Cotton Lint	159,223	50,791
Hides and Skins	197,214	505,785
Ground-Nuts.. .. .	174,716	179,219
Tin	568,428	706,988
.. ore (tons)	(4,142)	(6,175)
Timber	106,050	86,522
Palm Oil	1,854,384	1,571,691
Palm Kernels	3,109,818	2,541,150

Some 5,000 tons of cocoa were exported during the year, valued at a very low figure, owing to the low prices prevailing. The year's output was actually much larger than the figures denote, as some of the year's production had not been shipped at the end of December. The export is the largest recorded and, on the whole, the quality was much better than in previous years, some of the cocoa, specially prepared, having realised 69s. per cwt.

The remarkable increase in the exportation of hides and skins is worthy of notice. This industry has been created for the most part by the extension of the railway to Kano. It is also due, no doubt, to the series of minor epidemics which destroyed a large number of cattle in Bauchi and elsewhere.

The ground-nut industry has suffered severely from the closing of markets owing to the war. A large expansion had been expected, since, up to the end of July, 15,000 tons had been exported as compared with 19,000 tons for the whole of the previous year. Owing to the fall in prices, the farmers declined to sell in the latter months of the year, although railway and shipping freights had been reduced in order to assist the industry. There is, moreover, no doubt that the famine, from which the greater part of the Northern Provinces suffered (to which allusion is made in a later paragraph), resulted in the diversion of the ground-nut crop to food purposes.

The increase in the export of tin, in spite of the heavy fall in the value of the metal which took place during the year, is satisfactory.

Having regard to the abnormal conditions, the closing of markets and the fall in prices, the exports of palm oil and kernels during the year may be regarded as satisfactory.

Produce exported to the British Empire during the year under review amounted to £4,008,000 in value, as compared with £3,616,000 in the previous year, and produce in the hands of British merchants held up for shipment at the end of the year (owing to shortage of ocean tonnage) is estimated at an additional £500,000 value. Trade with Germany, which ceased on the outbreak of war, declined by £900,000, as compared with 1913.

The total imports and exports for the last five years, including specie, were as follows:—

			Imports.	Exports.	Total trade, deducting specie.
			£	£	£
1910]	..	..	5,857,335	5,304,186	10,380,822
1911	..	..	5,680,980	5,391,467	10,588,974
1912	..	..	6,430,601	6,089,706	11,725,371
1913	..	..	7,201,819	7,352,377	13,429,397
1914	..	..	6,901,072	6,610,046	12,697,417

The imports and exports of specie for the same period were as under :—

				Imports.	Exports.	Balance remaining.
				£	£	£
1910	..	..	..	734,965	45,734	689,231
1911	..	..	..	446,106	37,367	408,739
1912	..	..	..	478,718	316,218	162,500
1913	..	..	..	870,068	254,731	615,337
1914	..	..	..	624,115	189,585	434,530
						<hr/> £2,310,337 <hr/>

Average absorption of specie per annum, £462,067.

Taking trade as a whole, the returns for the first half of the year showed a remarkable expansion of 19 per cent. as compared with the returns of the corresponding period in the previous year, which were themselves the highest on record, imports advancing 23 per cent. and exports nearly 14 per cent.

During 1914 there were 73 tin mining companies operating in the Northern Provinces with a nominal capital of £6,175,864 and a working capital of £2,324,383. At the end of the year the companies held :—

						Acre.
225 alluvial mining leases	..	..	..	..	..	66,032
254 exclusive licences to prospect	..	..	..	..	..	660,439
27 exclusive licences to prospect under application for renewal	..	..	..	..	..	73,424
Total						<hr/> 799,895 <hr/>

In addition to the above-mentioned areas there were 18 stream mining leases for a total of 22,711 yards.

The amount of tin ore won was 6,143 tons as compared with 5,331 tons in 1913, 2,885 tons in 1912 and 1,470 in 1911. The total output for the year gives an average of 1·85 cwts. per acre of land held under mining lease. During the first six months of the year the output of ore amounted to 3,534 tons, but fell away during the last six months to 2,608 tons. The average price of a ton of metallic tin taken from the market prices on which royalties were based was £158·54. Royalty was collected during the year on 6,175 tons valued at £706,987. Royalty is collected at the port of shipment.

Gold mining operations have been undertaken near Minna, in the Niger Province, and 350 ounces of gold were won.

The minefield which had been closed to further prospecting since 1st November, 1912, for the purpose of a complete survey, was thrown open in May and July, 1914, except as regards the area included in the Bauchi Province. This latter part, which includes the bulk of the mineralised area, remained closed at the end of 1914. Progress was made with the survey until the outbreak of war, when the whole of the survey party were withdrawn for service in the field.

The coal deposit at Udi in the Onitsha Province promises to realise expectations, and the Government is taking steps thoroughly to develop it. The coal-field is not at present open to private exploitation.

MANUFACTURES.

Palm kernel oil and cake valued at about £72,000 were exported during 1914 as compared with an output in 1913 valued at £161,000. The manufacture of these articles ceased during the year, but the reason for the closing down of the factories situated at Lagos and Opobo is not known. There are no other manufactures of any importance by British and foreign firms. The native manufactures of "Morocco" leather, cloth, dyes, &c., have been described in former reports.

FISHERIES.

A steam trawler was sent out to Lagos by an English syndicate in the early part of the year and carried out some experimental deep-sea trawling, with, it is understood, successful results. An excellent and ample supply of deep-water fish was afforded, which found a ready sale and was much appreciated by all classes of the community. Operations were suspended on the outbreak of war, owing to shortage of coal supplies.

AGRICULTURE.

Southern Provinces.—As regards permanent crops the efforts of the staff of the Agricultural Department were principally directed towards establishing plantations of rubber (Para and Ceara), cocoa, kola, and oil and coconut palms. These do not thrive so well outside the moist Coast Belt, but experiments have proved that they can be successfully cultivated along the river valleys in the drier zones. From all quarters the demand by the natives for these plants has been brisk, especially as regards cocoa and kola.

The cultivation of cocoa is popular with the natives, since with relatively little labour they appear to obtain good yields. The method of planting, and the condition in which this produce is put on the market by the native growers is, however, far from ideal, and particular attention has, therefore, been paid by the Agricultural Department to educating native agriculturists on these points. The leading European merchants have co-operated usefully, and, when the native has presented his produce with a certificate from the Agricultural Department certifying that it had been cured according to the rules laid down by the Department, the merchants have willingly given a higher price. This practical method naturally appeals to the farmer and has been productive of much good. An experiment started in 1912, on the regeneration of a native cocoa farm in the Agege district, promises to afford a useful object lesson in practical scientific methods, and neighbouring farmers are showing great interest in it. The effect of careful cultivation and plant sanitation are being clearly demonstrated in a considerably increased yield. The comparatively steady market for cocoa has largely contributed to the popularity of this crop among the native planters. The outbreak of war caused a dislocation of the market, which was, however, adjusted by the end of the year and present prices are at about the normal level.

Regarding annual crops, the Department has been chiefly engaged in experimental work in connection with cotton, groundnuts, maize, and fibres.

Experimental work on the different varieties of cotton, native and American, has been continued, as well as the work of selecting hybrids, the first generation of which was obtained in 1913, from one of these native varieties (Ishan) crossed with different American strains. The latter work is a matter of great difficulty, but is full of promise. Unfortunately in the second generation of hybrids, the "leaf curl" disease, to which reference was made last year, made its appearance; it is hoped, however, that the strains susceptible to this disease may be eliminated in due course by selection. It is unfortunate that the native Ishan cotton should be so susceptible to this disease, as its lint is favourably regarded in the Liverpool cotton market. The quantity of the cotton seed distributed to the natives in 1914 was the largest on record, exceeding 900 tons, and a record harvest was confidently expected. Unfortunately, however, planting had to be delayed owing to the lateness of the rain, and the yield, in consequence, was one of the worst on record. At the International Cotton, Fibres, and Tropical Agricultural Products Exhibition held in London in 1914, the Agricultural Department of the Southern Provinces won the silver trophy presented by the British Cotton Growing Association. This was of much importance since it will favourably impress buyers as to the product that can be exported from Nigeria. The failure of the 1914 crop through drought consequently came at a particularly inopportune moment. The outbreak of war coincided with this failure and involved a reduction of the buying price of seed cotton by the British Cotton Growing Association from $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $\frac{3}{4}d.$ It is impossible, as yet, to estimate the full effect of this, but there is already evidence that the low price is causing dissatisfaction. Everything will depend on how soon the present conditions come to an end, but, in any case, a decrease must almost certainly be looked for next season. The problem of the various cotton pests, viz., species of boll worms, as well as a root pest, seed bugs, and stainers, is being energetically and systematically dealt with.

The department continued to foster the creation of model plots and nurseries and though it was not found possible during the year greatly to extend this most important branch of the work, all the more care was given to those already established, several of which are in a flourishing condition.

Northern Provinces.—The rainfall during the year was abnormally low and, in consequence, agriculture suffered throughout the country, but more particularly in the province of Kano, where the failure of the food crops caused a famine. These conditions also largely discounted the value of the agricultural experiments carried out during the year.

The work at the experimental stations in the Ilorin and Zaria Provinces was principally directed towards ascertaining the variety of cotton most suitable for cultivation in the Northern Provinces. The most promising results were obtained from experiments with locally-produced seeds of Allen's long staple, Nyasaland and Cambodia.

Allen planted on six plots of one acre each, which were treated with various artificial manures in 1913 and lightly manured by kraaling cattle in 1914, gave an average crop of 493 lb. of seed cotton per acre. The best plot gave 675 lb., which constitutes the heaviest yield of cotton yet recorded in the Northern Provinces. A great demand from native cultivators for this improved seed is anticipated. The Nyasaland crop raised from locally-grown seed gave a yield much in excess of that of the preceding year. Careful selection and hybridisation are being undertaken. Leguminous crops of various kinds, cereals and fodder crops were also cultivated.

The following local values of the principal items of produce of the Northern Provinces may be of interest:—Beniseed £6 to £7 per ton (increase over 1913, £2,566), gum Arabic 1d. per lb. (decrease £1,435), Shea nuts £7 per ton (decrease £21,905), Shea butter 2d. per lb. (increase £279); hides 8d. to 10d. per lb. (increase £241,086), total export £407,500; skins 1s. each (increase £67,486), total export £98,286.

FORESTRY.

Southern Provinces.—During the year, many forest areas have been surveyed which it is proposed shall be created forest reserves.

The exploitation of the Oni Forest Reserve has been begun by Government. This reserve contains magnificent trees yielding several kinds of first-class timber, such as mahogany, Iroko, Sida, Ekki, and Erun. The logs will be floated from Oni to a saw mill at Apapa (Lagos), a distance of 40 miles, from whence the timber can either be railed up-country or shipped over seas. The development of this project will be described in the report for 1915.

The revenue collected by the Forestry Department during the year was approximately £11,000, as compared with £20,920 in 1913. Twenty-two new timber areas were licensed, while 48 areas were worked.

Northern Provinces.—During the year the gum-producing resources of the Bornu Province were investigated. It was ascertained that the more valuable kinds of gum obtainable in large quantities compared favourably with the best Sudan grades. Large natural forests of the best gum-producing species exist, but owing to their distance from the coast and the present difficulties of transport, the prices offered locally are not sufficiently high to make the collection of wild gums an attractive occupation for natives.

LANDS.

Northern Provinces.—Under the provisions of the Land and Native Rights Proclamation, “rights of occupancy” are granted to non-natives and to natives alien to the district (who are not, therefore, amenable to the general tax) at Government stations, trading depôts, etc.

The term of occupancy depends, in the case of building sites, upon the permanency or otherwise of the buildings to be erected and may, in the case of urban building sites, extend to 60 years, the rent being periodically revisable. Such areas are usually limited to from 3 to 5 acres. Sites are put up to auction, the bidding being at present on the yearly rental, with an upset rental fixed.

At all stations where there are Europeans resident, or where their advent is probable, European and native “reservations” are laid out at a distance of 440 yards from each other (primarily with a view to the segregation urged by the sanitary authorities to prevent the spread of malaria), while every effort is made to afford equal trading facilities (in the way of railway sidings, etc.) to both. No European may reside in a native reservation, and only such natives as are in the immediate employ of Europeans may reside in the European location. Sites for natives are usually granted for short terms only, since their occupation is generally not permanent and the buildings erected are of a temporary nature. Building sites other than “urban” granted to non-natives are usually for a term of 35 years, the rent being revised septennially.

Agricultural or plantation rights of occupancy are usually granted for terms not exceeding 45 years and for areas not exceeding 1,200 acres. They are usually conditional upon a reasonable acreage being brought under cultivation within specified periods.

Rights of occupancy are also granted under the Minerals Proclamation, 1913, in connection with mining leases, provided that the land is required for the full and effective exercise of the rights conferred by the mining lease, and for no other purpose. The conditions under which surface rights may be acquired by lessees of minerals is at present under consideration.

The rentals at present paid in the Northern Provinces vary from a few shillings in outlying districts and for small building sites in the native reservations to £12 or more for plots in the same reservations at important trading centres where immediate access is given to a railway siding and up to as much as £50 or more for building sites on long terms in the European reservation at an important trading centre with railway facilities.

The whole system of certificates of occupancy, including the creation of European and native reservations, has been revised during the year. The system of auction, and some uniformity in conditions, has been introduced.

Southern Provinces.—Titles to Crown lands in the Colony and Southern Provinces are issued in the form of leases, the conditions of which are governed by the purposes for which the land is required. Building leases are granted for trade and residence. The value of buildings to be erected is fixed in each case. If the buildings are to be substantial, a term up to 60 years is allowed. Building leases are auctioned, the bidding at present being on the yearly rental. An upset rental is fixed in each case, principally by reference to the value of similar sites in the neighbourhood. Rents are revisable every 20 years in the case of a long term, and at lesser periods in the case of short terms. Leases of siding plots at railway stations are issued on special terms. The erection of a warehouse is required; the term does not usually exceed 25 years, and rent is revisable after ten years. Where Crown lands are required for agricultural purposes, the lessee is usually required to expend an amount equal to 5s. per acre of the area leased, and to bring the area under cultivation within a fixed time. The term allowed is up to 45 years and rent is normally revisable every 15 years. Leases of native lands to others than natives of Nigeria are issued with the approval of the Governor on such conditions as the Governor may direct in each case.

SHIPPING.

The following statement shows the steamers and sailing ships entered and cleared in 1914 compared with the previous year :—

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	1914.		1913.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
STEAM :—				
British ..	293	504,724	31	530,876
German ..	113	199,419	19	341,516
French ..	74	18,462	60	9,477
Dutch ..	..	..	2	17
Norwegian..	8	8,105	..	..
Spanish ..	2	242	..	..
	490	730,892	563	881,886
SAIL :—				
British ...	..	..	1	2,287
Norwegian..	..	..	1	568
Total ..	..	..	2	2,855
	490	730,892	565	884,741

The value of the trade carried by British and Foreign vessels during the year compared with the preceding year was as follows :—

	Direct.			Transit.		
	1914.		1913.	1914.		1913.
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
Entered ..	£ 6,194,657	£ 706,414	£ 6,304,520	£ 50,490	£ 98,044	£ 65,959
Cleared ..	5,338,851	1,271,195	5,537,152	125,466	167,880	158,287
Total ..	11,533,508	1,977,609	11,841,672	175,956	265,924	224,246

LEGISLATION.

All Ordinances enacted during the year were stated in the enacting clause to be applicable, either in whole or part, to either the Protectorate (or any part of it) or to the Colony and Protectorate, so that there will as from the date of amalgamation be only one statute book for Nigeria. The Ordinances enacted during the year, in so far as they embodied the existing legislation of either Northern Nigeria or Southern Nigeria, repealed the existing law and re-enacted it with such changes and amendments as were necessary. Owing to the necessity for making a slight change in the wording of the letters patent to give effect to this intention, no legislation was enacted till late in the year, when some progress was made with the re-enactment of some of the more important laws which were affected by the amalgamation. Among these were :—

“ The Criminal Procedure Ordinance, 1914,” to make provision in relation to Criminal Law and Procedure.

“ The Supreme Court Ordinance, 1914,” to make provision for the administration of justice and to constitute the Supreme Court of Nigeria.

“ The Provincial Courts Ordinance, 1914,” to make further provision for the administration of justice and to constitute Provincial Courts in the Protectorate.

“ The Native Courts Ordinance, 1914,” to make further provision for the administration of justice and to constitute Native Courts in the Protectorate.

“ The Trading with the Enemy Ordinance, 1914,” imposing penalties for, and making other provision in relation to, trading with the enemy.

“ The Aliens Restriction Ordinance, 1914,” to enable the Governor, in time of war or imminent national danger or great emergency, by Order in Council to impose restrictions on aliens and make such provisions as appear necessary or expedient for carrying such restrictions into effect.

“ The Marriage Ordinance, 1914,” regulating the law of marriage.

“ The Mineral Oils Ordinance, 1914,” to regulate the right to search for, win and work mineral oils.

“ The Native House Rule (Repeal) Ordinance, 1914,” to repeal the Native House Rule Ordinance.

“ The Trade Marks Ordinance, 1914,” to consolidate and amend the law relating to trade marks.

The group of Ordinances setting up the Supreme, Provincial, and Native Courts (together with the Arbitration and Coroners' Ordinances) gave effect to a reform in the judicial procedure which had long been under consideration, and unified the system throughout Nigeria. While the Supreme Court has concurrent jurisdiction with the Provincial Courts over all non-natives throughout Nigeria, it has exclusive

territorial jurisdiction only in certain centres where there is a large non-native population. Cases may, however, be transferred with the approval of the Governor-General from the Provincial to the Supreme Court. Sentences of the Provincial Courts exceeding six months' imprisonment require confirmation before they are operative. A new and more intelligible definition of the terms "non-native" and "native" involved some changes in the Native Courts Ordinance as hitherto applicable in the Northern Provinces, and the term Judicial Council is now defined as referring only to the Councils of paramount chiefs.

EDUCATION.

Northern Provinces.—There were four primary and two technical Government schools open at the commencement of the year, and four more primary schools were inaugurated during the year.

The number of pupils attending the Government schools, all of which are in the Mohammedan emirates, was 512. The high percentage of attendance (95·9) may be accepted as an indication of the keen interest of pupils and parents.

During the year Provincial schools were opened at Zaria and Bida, a training class for teachers at Ilorin, and small schools at Birnin Kebbi (attached to the Sokoto school) and at Badeggi (attached to the Bida school). Satisfactory progress has been made. At the beginning of May the central school at Kano was discontinued. The majority of the pupils entered the Provincial schools at Sokoto, Katsina, Bida, and Zaria, while the instruction of the remainder was continued in the Provincial school at Kano. A new building for the latter (in Kano town) was commenced in September, which will provide accommodation for 240 pupils. The cost of erection is borne by the Native Administration.

The total number of native teachers at the end of the year was 33, most of whom had passed through the Kano schools, and all of whom had previously received a fair training in the native Mohammedan schools, supplemented by a more general and advanced instruction from the officers of the Education Department. They are all men of good social standing, and are natives of the provinces in which they are employed. The difficulties due to a lack of trained native teachers suited for employment in pagan districts, the prejudice of parents against sending the children to school, the disinclination of pagan pupils to attempt combined and systematic work, and the obstacle presented to European teachers by the acquisition of the vernacular, have delayed the inauguration of schools among the non-Hausa speaking tribes, but it is hoped that these initial difficulties are being gradually overcome.

In the technical school at Kano instruction was given in the following crafts; carpentry, cabinet-making, embroidering, weaving, tailoring, tanning, leather-work, smith's work, brick-making and laying. At the end of the year there were 16 instructors and 86 learners.

The five mission societies working in the Northern Provinces maintained 58 schools, the total number of pupils on the rolls being 1,682. The number of Mohammedan (native) schools (not at present under the control of the Education Department) in the Kano, Bauchi, Niger, Yola, Muri, Nassarawa, Ilorin, and Zaria Provinces, is estimated at 15,636 with 119,190 pupils.

The total expenditure in the Northern Provinces on Education was £13,735, the whole of which was expended on Government schools.

Southern Provinces.—The number of schools and of pupils at the end of 1914, as compared with 1913, will be seen from the following table:—

	1913.			1914.		
	No. of Schools.	Pupils on Roll.	Average Attendance.	No. of Schools.	Pupils on Roll.	Average Attendance.
Government ..	54	6,118	4,584	54	5,757	4,175
Assisted ..	80	16,530	12,301	85	15,211	11,814
Unassisted ..	407	28,712	18,841	714	43,791	33,154
Total ..	541	51,360	35,726	853	64,759	49,143

The total expenditure on education in the Southern Provinces was £34,165, of which £2,062 was expended on the maintenance of Government schools, while grants to assisted schools amounted to £12,293.

The total expenditure on education in Nigeria during the year 1914 amounted to £47,900, being 1·5 per cent. of the realised revenue.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

Northern Provinces.—The number of Europeans admitted to the hospitals at Zungeru, Lokoja, and Kaduna during the year was 236, of whom eight died. In 1913, 208 were admitted and five died; 5,964 natives were admitted to hospital, of whom 346 died.

The total number of out-patients treated during the year was: Europeans, 1,242 with 6 deaths; natives, 22,521 with 296 deaths. The corresponding figures for 1913 were: Europeans, 1,336 with 4 deaths; natives, 22,385 with 318 deaths.

Southern Provinces.—The following is a general summary of patients treated at the various hospitals and dispensaries in the Southern Provinces during the year:—

				Out-patients.	In-patients.	Invalided.	Deaths.
EUROPEANS {	Officials			1,257	275	41	5
	Non-Officials			1,247	343	45	17
	Total			2,504	618	86	22
	Native Officials			4,146	510	7	6

Natives other than Government Officials:—

In-patients.	Total Attendances of Out-patients.	Deaths.
7,717	418,397	533

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

OFFENCES AND CONVICTIONS.

In the *Northern Provinces* the number of offences reported to the Police dropped from 2,967 in 1913 to 2,246 in 1914, and the number of persons brought before the magistrates from 2,892 to 2,190. The number of summary convictions also showed a considerable reduction, having fallen to 373 as compared with 559 in the preceding year. The Inspector General of Police, Northern Provinces, states that the decrease in the number of offences reported to the police and the number of persons brought before the magistrates as compared with previous years, is due to a larger number of minor cases having been tried before the native tribunals owing to the withdrawal of the police from several stations on account of the War. In the Superior Courts the decrease in the number of convictions is also well marked, the figures for 1914 being returned at 1,502 as against 2,028 in the previous year.

In the *Southern Provinces* the number of cases reported to the police increased from 11,009 in 1913 to 11,578 in 1914, but the number of cases brought before the magistrates and the Provincial Courts shows

a slight reduction—from 16,001 in 1913 to 15,944 in 1914. The number of summary convictions increased from 12,556 to 12,938, but the convictions in the Supreme Court fell from 287 in 1913 to 239 in 1914. It is possible that the withdrawal of a large number of police from their ordinary duties in many stations, for duties with the military, may account for a certain number of undetected crimes during the year. Taken as a whole, the criminal statistics of the Southern Provinces for the year are for purposes of comparison of doubtful value owing to the establishment of the Provincial Courts from the 1st October and the consequent curtailment of the area served by the Supreme Court.

MAGISTRACY.

In the *Northern Provinces* the duties of the "Station Magistrates" at Lokoja and Zungeru comprise more executive than magisterial work. The number of persons brought before them is returned as 2,190, as against 2,892 in 1913. Summary convictions numbered 373 in 1914 and 559 in 1913, a larger number of minor cases having been tried by the Native Courts.

Southern Provinces.—Station magistrates are appointed at Lagos, Calabar, and Warri, but in the first-named place only are the magisterial duties really onerous. The number of cases reported fell from 16,001 in 1913 to 14,307, and the number of summary convictions from 12,556 to 11,758.

POLICE.

Northern Provinces.—The Government police in the Northern Provinces consists of 20 Europeans and 923 natives. A detachment averaging about 70 is maintained under a European Assistant Commissioner in each of ten provinces in addition to similar detachments at Zungeru and Lokoja and for the railway. In the remaining two provinces (and in all the other provinces also so far as police work among natives outside Government stations are concerned) the ordinary police duties are discharged by unarmed "Dogarai" in the pay and under the control of the Native Administration. These native police enforce the orders of the chiefs and Native Courts under the supervision of the Political Officers and have proved very efficient. The duties of the Government police consist of the detection and suppression of crime on the railway and among the non-native and alien population at the larger centres, in the provision of guards for gaols and treasuries, and of escorts for Political Officers in disturbed districts. They also provide guards for specie and convicts, etc., and do other similar quasi constabulary work, serving summonses and executing warrants, etc. They are recruited largely from ex-soldiers of good character.

On the outbreak of war enlistment over-strength was authorised, and at the end of the year the force was 54 in excess of the normal establishment. They relieved the troops of various garrison duties and were also employed on active service, in which capacity they proved most efficient and on more than one occasion they rendered signal service in the field, especially at Takum, where a small detachment repelled a German incursion of greatly superior forces. During

the year the police took part in seven patrols. The work of the force has been well reported on by Residents. Discipline has improved, and only 47 serious punishments were inflicted, as compared with 117 in 1913.

Southern Provinces and Colony.—The absence as yet of the organised system of Native administration which obtains in the north throws upon the regular police force in the Southern Provinces and Colony a much larger share in the detection and suppression of crime, but they also supply guards and escorts and do other work of constabulary. The force consists of 24 Europeans and of 1,560 native ranks. During the year the custom of placing one or two constables in isolated villages was in process of abandonment, and a policy of grouping larger units under more efficient supervision and control was substituted. As in the Northern Provinces, the police, in consequence of the withdrawal of the troops for service in the Cameroons, were incorporated with the military forces by Order in Council and called upon to take their part in the suppression of various disturbances, some of which were of a serious nature and were directly traceable to the unrest caused by the war and in a few cases had been fomented by German traders. In all cases the force behaved with efficiency and gallantry and proved itself invaluable in the emergency. The police took part in four "patrols" during the year. Discipline has been well maintained and the health was good. No difficulty was experienced in getting good recruits.

In spite of the withdrawal of a large number of police for this work from their ordinary duties, the number of cases reported increased from 11,009 in 1913 to 11,578 in 1914. It was, however, very noticeable that during the prosecution of hostilities in the latter part of the year serious crime in Lagos and other large centres showed a marked decrease.

PRISONS.

The number of prisoners admitted to Government gaols in the *Northern Provinces* during 1914 was 2,093, as compared with 2,149 during 1913 and 1,733 during 1912.

The Native Administrations maintain 38 gaols at the principal centres in which prisoners convicted by the Native Courts are confined. They are under the supervision of the Resident and the Government Medical Officer.

The discipline of the prisoners throughout the Northern Provinces has been excellent; there was one case only of corporal punishment. There were eight escapes during the year, only one of the prisoners being recaptured.

Prisoners were employed in road-making, sanitation, farming, gardening, and transport of stores and building material. At Zungeru and Lokoja prisoners were also employed in tailoring, shoe-making, upholstery, carpentry, smiths' work, rope and mat-making, and other industries.

In the *Southern Provinces* and *Colony* 47 gaols were maintained. There were 5,395 prisoners in prison on January 1st, 1914, and 25,860 were committed during the year as against 29,427 in 1913.

The system of prison farms was considerably extended during the year. Its importance in the *Southern Provinces* is greater than in the *Northern Provinces* owing to the much greater cost of foodstuffs. The average daily cost per prisoner has been 3'18d.

The total cost of the prison establishments of *Nigeria* was £58,048 (£57,870 in 1913) as against a paper earning of £38,488 and actual cash receipts of £1,056 (£40,234 and £1,220 in 1913).

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

The average number of Europeans in the *Northern Provinces* was 969, as against 804 in 1913, classified as follows :—

			1913.	1914.
Government Officials	..	..	326	543
Trading Firms	..	..	156	165
Mining Companies	..	..	286	223
Missionaries	..	..	36	38
			—	—
			804	969
			—	—

In the *Southern Provinces* the number is estimated at roughly 2,000, of whom about 40 per cent. are officials. The European population of *Nigeria* may therefore be put in round figures at 3,000, of whom about 1,300 are officials.

The native population of the *Northern Provinces* is estimated at 9½ millions, and of the *Southern Provinces* at 7,856,000—a total of about 17½ millions. The average density in the *Northern Provinces* would therefore be about 37 to the square mile and in the *Southern Provinces* about 106. The most densely populated country is that around Ikot-Ekpene (Ibibio) which is estimated at 437 to the square mile. The Oban district (*Southern Province*) is said to have only 4 to the square mile and a large area north of Oyo is practically uninhabited.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Northern Provinces.—There were 27 deaths amongst the European population, as compared with 13 deaths in 1913, giving a death rate per 1,000 of 27'86 as compared with 16'04 in 1913. The great increase in the death rate is mainly due to casualties on the *Cameroon* frontier, where 9 Europeans were killed in action.

The number of European officials invalided during the year was 61, as against 50 in 1913. This gives a rate of 112'33 per 1,000 as against 153'37 per 1,000 in 1913.

The following is a comparative statistical analysis for the past ten years :—

	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Average European Population ..	342	347	424	499	544	637	841	703	804	969
Number of Deaths ..	10	17	7	10	13	13	13	22	13	27
Death-rate per 1,000 ..	29.23	48.99	16.50	20.04	23.89	20.41	20.28	31.29	16.04	27.86
Number of Invalids ..	49	55	50	48	67	48	40*	50	70	82
Invaliding rate per 1,000 ..	143.27	158.50	117.92	96.19	123.16	75.35	108.40*	71.12	87.06	84.62

* Officials only.

Malaria is still the prevailing cause of ill-health among Europeans. Out of a total of 236 Europeans admitted to the various hospitals, 69 were suffering from malaria, as against a total of 208 in 1913, of which malaria accounted for 63. Out of a total of 1,242 European out-patients, 327 were treated for malaria, as against 1,327 and 306 respectively in 1913.

During the year there were six deaths due to blackwater fever, which was also the number of fatal cases in 1913.

Southern Provinces.—The most common diseases among the native population are:—Pneumonia, constipation and diarrhoea, anæmia, neuralgia and rheumatic affections. Pneumonia is one of the most serious acute diseases from which the native suffers. It is most common during the cold harmattan season. There were 339 cases reported with a mortality of 14·7 per cent.

There were no deaths from malaria among officials. Three deaths occurred among European non-officials.

Yellow fever, which had broken out in 1913, reappeared in 1914. A case occurred at Warri, and another at Onitsha, the infection apparently having taken place between Degema and Oguta. Two cases occurred in Lagos (one an engineer on a branch boat) and the usual strict measures were taken. Both cases recovered, and quarantine was raised on March 4th. The fifth case (a railway official) occurred at Ebute Metta (near Lagos) and recovered. The sixth was a fatal case on board S.S. "Nembe" at Forcados. The seventh also took place on board a coasting vessel at Calabar, though the infection probably occurred at Bonny, and was fatal. The eighth was also a fatal case of a seaman at Burutu. All the cases, with one exception, were unofficials. In all there were 8 cases among Europeans with 4 deaths, as against 17 cases and 9 deaths in 1913. No cases were reported among natives in 1914.

There was a large increase in the number of cases of beriberi reported, almost entirely from the Cross River districts; 227 cases occurred with five deaths. There were no cases among Europeans.

Dysentery shows an increase over last year of 263 cases though the mortality was practically the same. An epidemic was reported as occurring in the Udi prison where there were nine deaths. Emetine has been largely used in treatment with good results, but until more systematic methods are adopted to determine whether the cases are bacillary or amœbic it will be difficult to appreciate the value of emetine to the full.

Nearly 90 per cent. of the cases of leprosy in the Southern Provinces occur on the River Niger in the neighbourhood of Onitsha, while the Eastern Provinces appear to be almost free from the disease. A modified system of segregation and isolation by the establishment of leper settlements or "villages" maintained by the native community, principally in the neighbourhood of the larger towns, was introduced. Farm land, where possible, is allotted, and such of the inmates as are able are encouraged to assist in their maintenance by working it; additional food and other necessities being provided by the chiefs

or relatives of the lepers. Isolation has not been too rigidly enforced at first in order to avoid making the scheme unpopular, but it is hoped that, later on, more efficient isolation can be enforced and intercourse between the leprous and non-leprous gradually reduced to a minimum. At Ibadan, although lepers are few, the scheme was welcomed by the chiefs, and there is every prospect of the villages becoming a success. In the Onitsha province, where the disease is most prevalent, in addition to the already existing settlements, work has been pushed on and sites chosen and houses erected at four places. In this province, however, native co-operation appears to be somewhat slackening at present, as also in several other districts.

There was but one epidemic of small-pox, in the Southern Provinces, viz., in the Ekiti country. The district was visited by medical men and vaccinators. The outbreak appears to have been a severe one. The district is believed to be the last stronghold of what remains of the now almost extinct Shopono, or small-pox worship, which was once the scourge of Yoruba Land. Action is now being taken by the Government to stamp out what remains of this pernicious juju in the Ekiti country.

A systematic investigation of the prevalence of ankylostomiasis was instituted in 1914, and will be continued in 1915, with a view to determining, if possible, to what extent this disease and malaria are responsible for the anæmia so common to the country, and drawing conclusions as to the efficacy of treatment by thymol and other drugs. Since it has been found difficult to keep in touch with the cases, work has been practically confined to prisoners and hospital patients. There is no doubt that the disease is very wide-spread; the average number infected works out at about 43 per cent. Europeans are practically exempt.

SANITATION.

Northern Provinces.—The routine of sanitary—like most other civil—activity, during 1914, was considerably upset by the outbreak of war; many medical stations had to be closed in order that medical officers might be released for military service; and many of the Political Officers, whose assistance in sanitary work is in normal circumstances assured, were engrossed in other urgent matters. Much work has been, however, accomplished during the year. The areas surrounding every actual or proposed railway station throughout the entire railway system within the Northern Provinces, together with such old-established stations as Kano, Zaria, Minna, Baro, Lokoja, Ibi, Ilorin, and Jebba were, under instructions, surveyed by the Survey Department, who, under the directions of the Sanitary Officer, arranged the European and Native reservations, which should give effect to the policy of segregation and other sanitary principles.

The water-supply of Kano, which had been a source of anxiety for some time, was thoroughly investigated by the Sanitary Officer, who, *inter alia*, succeeded in isolating a hitherto unknown bacillus closely

allied to the typhoid group. Drastic steps were taken and the end of the year found the water-supply as much improved as it is ever likely to be until the installation of the proposed new supply from the river Shalawa.

One fatal case of yellow fever in a European official was reported from Jebba in July. It was the only case ever known to have occurred within the Northern Provinces, and its origin has not been satisfactorily accounted for. Jebba was one of the places which had been receiving special attention with a view to preventing the occurrence of the disease. Every possible step was taken to prevent its recurrence.

Two European officers were invalided from the Benue with trypanosomiasis, while five natives were admitted to hospital with the same infection, one of whom died of sleeping sickness. The Sanitary Officer proceeded up the Benue to investigate the extent of the disease and to devise preventive measures, and he was still engaged in this work at the close of the year. The river route was closed for a time, and later on, when it had been tentatively reopened, arrangements were made for the protection of passengers by mosquito-proofing the vessels.

In the *Colony and Southern Provinces* sanitary progress was well maintained during the year 1914, special attention being given to practical measures directed against the possible introduction of plague from the Gold Coast and propagation and spread of yellow fever which was still with us as a continuation of the 1913 epidemic. A beginning was made with the systematic training of intelligent young natives as sanitary inspectors.

The more important towns, such as Lagos, Warri, Forcados, Onitsha, Bonny, and Calabar, have received considerable attention and are making satisfactory progress in sanitary matters. The responsibility for the sanitary development of out-districts devolves almost entirely upon the respective medical officers, who endeavour to instil into the native mind the necessity for cleanliness of markets, towns, and villages, and much help in this direction is received from executive officers, who are also keenly interested in the work. Ibadan, for instance, the largest native town in Nigeria, owing to the work of the Administration staff, showed more improvement during 1914 than in all previous years.

The teaching of hygiene in schools and by practical demonstrations in the various towns was continued and considerable progress was manifested.

VETERINARY.

During the year two veterinary officers were appointed and attached to the Agricultural Department in the Northern Provinces. They have been principally engaged in collecting information regarding the condition of live stock, and the prevalence, classification, and diagnosis of diseases. Work was not started until comparatively late in the year, and sufficient proved data are not yet available on which

to base a report, although the work done will be of great future value in assisting to frame a programme for improvement of stock and for the prevention and treatment of epizootic disease amongst the horses and flocks and herds which constitute some of the principal assets of the Northern Provinces. One of the two officers was attached to the mounted infantry for service in the field on the outbreak of war, and his services were therefore lost, for his normal duties, during the greater part of the time he was in the country.

METEOROLOGY.

Northern Provinces.—Owing to the fact that many medical officers were on active service on the Cameroons frontier, the Meteorological records in the Northern Provinces for the year are incomplete. This makes comparison of the average annual rainfall somewhat difficult as it was during the rains that the records ceased. Generally speaking, however, there was again a remarkable shortage of rain, and the average for the Northern Provinces was 28·78 inches in 1914, against 31·50 inches in 1913 and 39 inches in 1912. The heaviest rainfall in 1914 was at Naraguta (59·17 inches).

Southern Provinces.—Throughout the year meteorological observations were taken at thirty-four stations.

On January 1st, a universal standard time for Nigeria was adopted, viz., half an hour fast on Greenwich mean time, corresponding to the meridian 7° 30' E. long.

MILITARY FORCES AND OPERATIONS.

On January 1st the military forces were united and placed under a single command. The varying rates of pay and conditions of service obtaining in the North and South, were, as far as possible, assimilated. The strength, composition, and armament of the forces are not considered to be suitable subjects for this annual report.

The following military operations were undertaken in the *Southern Provinces* during 1914 :—

On 6th February a force of six sections of infantry was detailed to deal with the turbulent Sonkwala tribes on the German frontier which had threatened the boundary survey and had attacked Government messengers. They were said to be well-armed and plentifully supplied with powder. The enemy had completely surrendered by 16th March and accepted terms imposed which included the surrender of guns, making of roads and rest-houses, and payment for two years of an annual tax. Their casualties amounted to 69 killed and wounded, those on our side being nil.

There was much unrest in Udi district throughout the year. During March the town of Oye fired on a survey escort, and four sections of troops proceeded thither. The operations lasted for a fortnight; the enemy's losses amounted to about 30 killed and wounded.

More serious disturbances took place later in the neighbourhood of Akebi in the same district, where sixteen Hausa traders were murdered during October. A strong force of over 200 troops soon restored order, the murderers being given up, and the terms of surrender complied with.

In October the natives of Kwale murdered forty-one persons, amongst whom were two Native Court clerks, five Court messengers, and seventeen Hausas. Troops and police were at once despatched to the scene of the outbreak, and met with the most determined opposition, which collapsed, however, towards the end of the month. All the murderers were handed over, tried by the Supreme Court, and forty-two sentenced to death. It seems not improbable that this and other symptoms of unrest were due, more or less directly, to the action of German traders, who were shortly after removed from Nigeria.

At Awka, in the Onitsha Province, the troops were attacked by the natives of Atchina and Arkpo; operations lasted from 17th-24th September. The enemy suffered thirty-six casualties.

At Obubra, in the Calabar Province, it was found necessary during March to call in troops to quell inter-town fighting, in the course of which many natives had been killed on both sides.

On the outbreak of war, the police force was partially mobilised and by an Order in Council directed to serve with the military forces of the Colony and Protectorate. For several months police were actively engaged in the repression of internal disturbances of a serious nature, particularly in the Owerri Province. The affected districts were Aba, Opobo (Ogoni), Okigwi, Orlu, Owerri, and Bende; in the first three cases punitive measures were found to be necessary.

In the *Northern Provinces* a patrol was despatched to the Agatu district of the Bassa Province in January, where inter-tribal fighting was taking place and some towns were reported to be in a state of anarchy. One native was killed.

Operations were undertaken against the Verre and Lala pagans in the Yunguru district of the Yola Province in March and April, with the object of quelling disturbances which had arisen from the murder of the district headman and 17 of his following, followed by an attack on the fort at Pirambi, held by a detachment of the W.A.F.F. The casualties were estimated at over 200 pagans killed, while three soldiers were wounded, and more than 50 friendly tribesmen were killed.

A patrol which visited the Katakwe and Kaleri districts, in the S.W. corner of the Bauchi Province in May was attacked at Katakwe. The inhabitants of this town have been for years reported as lawless and prone to attack friendlies. Seventeen natives were killed.

A police patrol in the Mumuye district of the Muri Province came into conflict with the tribesmen in June, and five natives were killed.

In the Dukawa portion of the Yauri Emirate, Kontagora Province, the Assistant District Officer and the native head of the district were fired on when arresting two criminals in June. Five natives were killed.

In the same month the southern Haraba clan of the Munshis in Muri Province attacked a party sent to arrest six town headmen. It is estimated that 20 natives were killed.

In June and July a patrol was sent to the Mada tribe, Lafia Division of Nassarawa Province, to enforce payment of outstanding tax for 1913 by 6 Mama villages and 20 Mada villages. Casualties—5 natives killed, 2 wounded.

In October, a patrol assisted by police was despatched to the districts of Kotonkarifi, Niger Province, and Umaisha, Nassarawa Province, to quell disturbances among the Bassa, which arose, it is understood, because they believed that all British officials had gone to war with the Germans and had been exterminated, and they thought the opportunity might be turned to their advantage, and used to raid neighbouring tribes. Thirty-four Bassa natives were killed and some wounded, the native Political Agent received an arrow wound in his foot, and six of the Kotonkarifi people were wounded and one killed by the insurgents. The officer in command received a slight arrow wound. Fines amounting to £238 were inflicted on 27 villages.

A police patrol visited the Bassa Province in October and November, for the purpose of quelling a rising of the Bassa-Nge tribe who made a sudden attack on Mr. Cowper, A.D.O., and six police. A fine of £204 was inflicted on the 12 towns primarily concerned. The cause of the outrage was that a German trader had told the Bassa-Nges that the Germans would be in their country in three months, since the English were being defeated. He advised them to pay no taxes and told them the Germans would give them what they wanted. Mr. Cowper had two carriers, a servant, and a boy killed, a policeman severely wounded, and four carriers missing. The Bassa-Nges are believed to have lost 12 killed.

A police patrol was sent to the Tangali district, Gombe Division of the Bauchi Province, in November, to deal with a section of pagans who had set upon a native official and a peaceful village, killing 11 and wounding 12 of them. Nine of the aggressors had been killed and several wounded in the affray. Nine more were killed and seven wounded when opposing the patrol. Our casualties were nil.

RAILWAY.

The main results of working, including charges for haulage of Government materials, were as follows :—

	1913.	1914.
Mean mileage operated	936	950
Gross Receipts	£713,628	£763,913
Working Expenditure	£385,130	£448,979
Proportion of Working Expenditure to Gross Receipts	53·97%	58·77%
Net Receipts	£328,498	£314,934
Total Capital Expenditure on mileage open for traffic	£6,094,242	£6,656,476
Percentage of Net Receipts to Capital Expenditure	5·39%	4·73%

During the seven months preceding the outbreak of war, the gross earnings amounted to £507,516, or an average monthly revenue of £72,500 compared with an average for 1913 of £59,500—an increase of 20 per cent. During the last five months of the year, however, the earnings fell to £242,701 only, or a monthly average of £48,540, a decrease of 16½ per cent. compared with the average for 1913. Immediately before the declaration of war, traffic prospects, and the general financial position of the railway, were therefore very favourable, but these conditions were at once adversely affected. Traffic suffered a severe set back due to the cessation of trading by the German and Austrian firms, who had been doing a large business with the railway, and to the general disturbance of trade. Traffic conditions gradually improved, however, and there appeared to be every prospect of regaining a considerable amount of the trade that had been temporarily lost. These prospects were destroyed by the serious shortage of steamer tonnage towards the close of the year, which not only caused a great congestion of produce awaiting export at the Iddo terminus, but checked the revival of trade. It was very fortunate under these circumstances that the reconstruction of the terminal yard and the provision of adequate shed accommodation had been completed, for otherwise it would have been necessary to refuse to accept goods for carriage until the sheds were cleared.

The proportion of working expenditure to revenue increased from 53·97 per cent. in 1913 to 58·77 per cent. in 1914, due to the heavy decrease in traffic during the last five months of the year. This is one of the unsatisfactory consequences of a sudden interruption of normal business, as it is impossible to reduce expenditure in proportion to the reduction in earning power. The rise in the price of all materials, and especially coal, further accentuated the unfavourable conditions.

Several large temporary reductions in rates were nevertheless made in the interests of the mercantile and mining communities. The rate on palm kernels was reduced by 10 per cent. and on groundnuts and

shea nuts by 30s. per ton from Kano. The rates on mining machinery and plant and tin ore were also lowered. A further special reduced rate was also granted for six months upon the outbreak of war on account of a heavy temporary fall in the price of tin ore.

On July 1st, the opening of the narrow gauge line extension of 31 miles from Jengre to Jos brought the railway on to the mine-fields plateau. This was followed in September by the opening of the remaining 10 miles to Bukuru, completing this section of the line, which now amounts to 141 miles. The extension has been constructed within the estimate of £145,754, and has been paid for from the general revenue of the Protectorate.

The scheme for the removal of headquarters from Ebute Metta to Kaduna, including the establishment of central and modern locomotive and carriage and wagon workshops, was sanctioned at an estimated cost of £385,215. Owing to the very unfavourable conditions which would be met in placing orders for machinery, etc., and also for financial reasons, the part of the scheme relating to the workshops has been temporarily postponed. A reduced programme of buildings and offices, for the transfer of the other departments to Kaduna, is, however, being carried out.

The completion of the reconstruction of the terminal yard, with sorting and warehouse sheds, at Iddo, has greatly facilitated the work of the railway shipping port.

On the outbreak of war, a railway contingent was formed and despatched to the Cameroons. The contingent consisted of 11 European officers, and the military authorities expressed their appreciation of the work performed in restoring the track and bridges destroyed.

The actual capital added during the year, both from Loan funds and Protectorate Reserves, amounted to £562,233.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

Work on the Eastern Railway was continued during the year, but after the outbreak of war it was, for financial reasons, decided to postpone the construction of the Central and Northern sections. Construction is for the present, therefore, being confined to the section from Port Harcourt to the coal fields (150 miles). The survey of the Northern and Central sections is being continued, and so also are borings for a site for the bridge to cross the Benue in the vicinity of the "Munshi Rapids." At the end of 1914, clearing on the Southern section had been completed to mile 78, the earthworks being completed to mile 54½ and well in hand to mile 78; rails had reached mile 15½. Fourteen miles of track had been laid southward from Kaduna on the Northern section before work on that section was discontinued in September. The whole area of the site of Port Harcourt (the main terminal and port) has been cleared and laid out. Designs are now being prepared for the wharves and for laying out as a model port. A temporary wharf will be put in hand shortly, to deal with produce and imports, as soon as a portion of the line, probably the first 72 miles, is opened for traffic.

A short colliery line of about one mile in length, with a fall of 75 feet in that distance, will connect the colliery with the main line. The main coal seam is now being opened up under a manager, and it is hoped that, before the middle of 1916, the line, albeit not fully completed, will have reached the coal fields, and that the colliery will have been able to extract a considerable quantity of coal in readiness for conveyance to the port.

On the whole the health of the European staff and the labourers engaged on the construction of the Eastern Railway has been good, and the result of the clearing at Port Harcourt has been a large decrease in biting flies, though mosquitoes, owing to the proximity of swamps as yet unreclaimed, are still fairly numerous.

An immense improvement in the work by the labour gangs on the Southern section has to be noted. When construction commenced a year or so ago, the labour was so inferior and the people so primitive and undisciplined, that it took probably two to three men to do the work of one ordinary labourer from the north. They are now so improved that fully 75 per cent. perform the allotted task—one cubic yard per diem—and earn the full wage. They are paid in proportion to the work done. They are much improved in appearance by the regular work, and large numbers are now coming in voluntarily as wage earners. As instructions had been given that nothing but coin should be used in payment of labour, the forms of native currency are disappearing along the line of the railway, and the West African silver and nickel-bronze coins (as well as British silver) are being readily accepted by the natives.

The total expenditure on the Eastern Railway to the end of the year was £1,027,399, which was found from the surplus balances of Nigeria. Construction was carried on under Mr. Bland as engineer-in-chief, and under the general superintendence of Mr. Eaglesome, C.M.G., Director of Railways and Works. The total European staff employed numbered 165 at the close of the year, with about 18,000 native labourers.

LAGOS HARBOUR WORKS.

During 1914 satisfactory progress was made with the works now in course of construction with the object of making the Port of Lagos open to ocean-going steamships. Work on the Eastern Mole, which had reached a length of 7,778 feet early in July, was temporarily stopped until such time as the Western Mole shall have advanced sufficiently to enable the combined effect of the two moles on the entrance to the channel to be observed; 497,873 tons of stone have been used on the Eastern Mole. The Western Mole had, on 31st December, been extended to 2,636 feet, 661 feet having been constructed during the year; 261,869 tons of stone have been used on this mole.

The total cost of these Harbour Works is estimated at £897,000 (provided by loan), of which the expenditure to the end of the year was £558,989. An extension of the Apapa Wharf by a length of 180 feet, and of the Customs Wharf by 400 feet, to afford berthage of 20 feet at low water for ocean-going steamers, was sanctioned during the year and will shortly be taken in hand.

The bar draught during the year was subject to some variations. It was raised to 19 feet on February 4th, and was maintained at that depth till July 1st, but subsequently decreased to a minimum of 13 feet 6 inches on September 29th. Following this an improvement set in and a depth of 17 feet was maintained from November 23rd. During the period February to July, the mail steamers made regular use of the harbour both outward and homeward, the largest steamer being the "Abosso" (4,762 registered tons).

MARINE SERVICES.

The Marine Departments of Northern Nigeria and Southern Nigeria were amalgamated on January 1st, under the late Lieutenant Child, R.N., whose death on service was a great loss to Nigeria. At the outbreak of war the greater part of the Marine Department was sworn in as a "Marine Contingent" and some 12 vessels and a large part of the personnel were sent to assist the Naval Forces engaged in the operations against the German Cameroons. The Senior Naval Officer has reported the excellent work done in mine sweeping and other operations of war by the Nigerian Marine, at the cost of several casualties. The staff in Nigeria were employed at high pressure in strengthening river vessels to carry heavy guns, in protecting with such plating as was available, in the manufacture of kites for mine sweeping, and in repairs of damaged vessels, etc., upon which, in the earlier phase of the campaign, success largely depended.

The usual launch services were maintained during the year until the outbreak of war, when several of them, notably the important Lagos-Sapele services, had to be closed down owing to the withdrawal of vessels for active service. The receipts from these services were in consequence much reduced during the year. The proposal to dispose of some of the services to a privately formed Company, which had been under discussion since 1913, was finally abandoned during the year, and an increased tariff of fares and freights (except on the Niger service) was approved for introduction on the 1st January, 1915, in order to put the services on a commercial basis, as far as possible.

The new and expensive dredging and reclamation plant was, with the exception of the new dredger, received towards the middle of the year, and operations were commenced shortly afterwards to dredge the deep water channels in Lagos Harbour required in connection with the new wharfage accommodation which is being provided in the port at the Customs Wharf and Apapa, for ocean-going steamers.

One of the existing dredgers was accepted for use in this connection, pending delivery of the new dredger which is being built for this purpose, but the work had to be closed down in September, owing to officers and men and a portion of the craft being sent on active service.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Southern Provinces.—The outbreak of war in August necessitated the curtailment of the programme of public works, but many useful works had already been successfully completed or were in such an advanced stage towards completion that work had to be continued.

In Lagos, the printing office was completed at a cost of £10,564. A new prison at Warri was commenced but could not be finished owing to delay in arrival of material from England. At Forcados a European Hospital, and at Burutu a house for the Collector of Customs, were built. At Bonny a Sanitary Station has been constructed, which should meet the requirements of that part of the coast for some considerable time, and a Native Hospital was finished at Onitsha.

The road between Ibadan and Ijebu-Ode was completed; much work has been carried out on the Benin-Ifon road; and through communication has been established between Benin and Asaba on the Niger by the construction of a bridge over the Ossiomo river. Through communication has also been established between Onitsha and Itu on the Cross river by constructing a deviation to avoid Oguta lake and bridging the Njaba river and the Imo river at Owerinta. These two bridges cost £3,302. A road was constructed from Opobo to Essene and a bridge built over the Essene river.

The Lagos Waterworks were practically completed in 1914. During this year the majority of the mains were laid and the trunk main completed. Erection of the machinery was delayed owing to its late arrival from England, but pumping was commenced and the scheme was put in operation during December. The total expenditure up to the end of the period covered by this report was £296,700.

Northern Provinces.—£16,456 was provided for the repair and maintenance of existing buildings, and £112,520 for the construction of new works; of the latter sum, £60,000 was allotted for works at the new capital.

At Kaduna (New Capital) by the end of the year 30 miles of road had been surveyed and cleared, 20 bungalows with necessary out-houses had been built, five large iron store-sheds and one brick store had been erected, and eight bungalows and 30 blocks of barracks (quarters for 300 soldiers) were in course of construction. In view of the prospective move to Kaduna, no work of any magnitude was undertaken at Zungeru, although various minor works were carried out.

At Lokoja the water supply from Mount Patti was increased by connecting up with new springs, improving the filter beds and increasing the water storage accommodation. Various buildings and bridges were erected.

The total expenditure on recurrent (repair) works was £14,304, and on new works £85,335.

GENERAL.

1. The year 1914 will ever be a memorable one in the annals of Nigeria, in that it opened with the amalgamation of the two separate Administrations of Northern and Southern Nigeria into a single Government of Nigeria, and its close saw the outbreak of the great world war, which affected the country not merely as an outlying part of the British Empire in its trade and its revenue, but more nearly in that, at its commencement, Lagos was not without fear of invasion, and later the whole resources of the country were directed to the prosecution of the war against the neighbouring German Colony of the Cameroons.

AMALGAMATION.

On January 1st (as Governor of both Northern Nigeria and Southern Nigeria) I was privileged to declare at a public ceremony that by His Majesty's order those two Administrations had ceased to exist, and were replaced by the single Government of Nigeria, under a Governor-General, constituted under new Letters Patent and Orders in Council with a new seal and flag.

The principal changes introduced by this new departure were as follows :—The “Colony of Southern Nigeria,” whose boundaries for the first time were accurately defined, became the “Colony of Nigeria” under an “Administrator” responsible direct to the Governor-General, with a small Secretariat and Political Staff, but dependent as regards all other departments on the staff of the Southern Provinces of the Protectorate. The Legislative Council remained, but its powers of legislation were restricted to the Colony, since “it would be manifestly unjust to place the Mohammedan Emirates of the North and the mining interests of the Bauchi plateau under a Council sitting on the coast, in which they could have no representation.” The annual estimates of expenditure continue to be submitted separately to the Council—a sufficient sum to meet that expenditure being assigned from the general revenues of Nigeria.

A new Executive Council, comprising the senior officials of the whole of Nigeria replaced the former restricted Council. A new body named the “Nigerian Council” was also created, which included among its members the leading official and unofficial representatives, both of the European and native communities, concerned with shipping, banking, commercial, and mining interests. The Council must meet at

least once in the year, and for the present, at any rate, its functions are restricted to a review of current events, and to an expression of public opinion in regard to the developments of Government policy.

The Protectorate, which comprises an area of 334,300 square miles, was now divided into two spheres, each under a Lieutenant-Governor (assisted by a separate Secretariat) responsible to, and exercising large powers on behalf of, the Governor-General. These spheres corresponded with the former territories of Northern and Southern Nigeria, and were termed the Northern and Southern Provinces—an arrangement which obviated the difficulty presented by the fact that they were each subject to a different set of laws, in some cases widely divergent—and differed essentially in many matters of policy and administration. The system of land tenure and the prerogative of the Crown in respect to lands, the system of taxation, of the Courts of Law, and the methods of Native Administration were fundamentally different; and the adoption of any other method of sub-division, such as had been suggested, would therefore have produced an initial chaos. The division actually adopted, pending the unification of the laws and the evolution of a uniform policy, with such local variations as differences in race, in degree of civilisation, in religion and environment, which might prove to be necessary for Nigeria, in no way precluded a later adjustment of these spheres. The Northern Provinces, twelve in number, comprise an area of 255,700 square miles, and a population estimated at $9\frac{1}{4}$ millions. The Southern Provinces, now nine in number, cover 78,600 square miles, with a population of $7\frac{3}{4}$ millions. The Colony has an area of 1,400 square miles, and a population of 166,000. Mr. Boyle, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Southern Nigeria, was appointed to the senior post of Lieutenant-Governor of the Southern Provinces, and Mr. Temple, C.M.G., Chief Secretary of Northern Nigeria, to the Lieutenant-Governorship of the Northern Provinces, while Mr. James, C.M.G., became Administrator of Lagos, each having the title of "His Honour."

New Capitals. (a) Kaduna. With the approval of the Secretary of State, a site was selected for a new central capital of Nigeria, at the point where the main trunk railway crosses the Kaduna river, and where the projected trunk line through the eastern part of the Protectorate will later form a junction at the headquarters of the railway, and the site of the principal workshops. The climate of this site, situated near the edge of the central plateau at an altitude of 2,000 feet, is in sharp contrast to the moist and relaxing heat of Lagos and the dry heat of Zungeru (the respective capitals of the former Administrations); and at Kaduna, for half the year, the nights are actually cold and the air is bracing. It is assured of an abundant and good water supply, and is within easy access by railway both of the eastern and western areas, while the branch line to Baro on the Niger and the waterway of that great river afford access to the central district. The headquarters of the military force had already been located here in temporary buildings for a year, in order to test its salubrity and its freedom from tsetse and mosquitos and other noxious insects. Progress was made during the year in the erection of permanent buildings for the force, and for the railway officials in their new location, but the financial stringency due to the war has retarded progress.

(b) Yaba. In view of the expansion of the Administration at Lagos, the capital of the Colony and Southern Provinces, the difficulty of finding suitable building sites, and the growing necessity for some practical scheme of segregation of Europeans, owing to the recognition of the endemicity of yellow fever, it was also decided to remove the headquarters of the Southern Provinces Administration to a site near Yaba, some six miles from Lagos, where it is universally recognised that the fresh breezes offer a marked contrast to the heavy moist air from the sea and the swamps which surround Lagos Island. The site is from 70 to 85 feet above sea level, whereas there are few places in Lagos Island which are as many inches in elevation. The difficulty of carrying out the necessarily exhaustive surveys and tests, owing to the heavy jungle growth which covered the site, before a final decision on so important and costly a step was taken, have precluded any progress with the actual scheme during the year, and the outbreak of war, with its financial effects, has temporarily postponed its execution.

POLICY OF ADMINISTRATION.

The general policy in the North and South had in the past differed both in aim and method. The North, cut off from access to the sea by the whole breadth of Southern Nigeria (a distance of 200 miles or more), except by the precarious waterway of the Niger, until the comparatively recent completion of the single railway from Lagos, had been unable to develop its natural resources to any great extent, owing to the cost of transport, which fell as a heavy burden on the export of ordinary produce. A large portion of its peoples—probably about half—occupying the Fulani and Bornu States, were the inheritors of an ancient civilisation (based on the religion of Islam), which, prior to the assumption of the government by the British Crown in 1900, had deteriorated into a rule of tyranny and extortion. Slave-raiding had assumed gigantic proportions, and the armies of the Emirs had depopulated vast areas which had previously been inhabited by a dense and industrious pagan population. A great variety of taxes (including death duties, etc.), had become the instrument of spoliation, and the law courts, formerly under the control of Alkali deeply read in Mohammedan law and impartial in their judgments, had also to a large extent become debased and the servile instruments of a despotic Executive. In these circumstances it was the inevitable task of the early Administration to break the power of the various states by armed force, to reconstitute the Native Courts and the system of taxation, and to reform the Native Administration. The system which has been called “Indirect rule through the Native Chiefs” was set up. Its cardinal features were the recognition of the fact that native rulers were not fitted for independent government, but that under supervision by a political staff (whose policy and methods were co-ordinated in all the different states by a close touch with headquarters and were clearly defined in a series of memoranda, etc.), they could be educated to conduct their own affairs and to control a reorganised Native Executive and Judiciary. A portion of the reformed tax was assigned to them for the payment of both the Executive and the Judges, all of whom, from the Emir himself down to the heads of districts (and in some cases

even the heads of villages), were gradually placed on fixed salaries, and had fixed duties. Each separate community had its own Treasury, and its annual expenditure was kept entirely distinct from the revenue and expenditure of the Protectorate Government, and subject only to the approval of the Governor. Powers of legislation, of the initiation of new or increased taxation, of maintaining armed forces, and of the disposal of land, were retained in the control of the Government. A summary of the present financial and executive position of the Native Administration will be found in a former paragraph. A system so advanced and so elaborate in its detail could not, of course, be at once adopted in the areas occupied by the primitive pagan tribes, who inhabited fully a half of the Northern Provinces, but the general outlines of this scheme of administration were made equally applicable to all, and it devolved on the political staff by constant effort to endeavour to raise these tribes to the same level as that of the Hausa and Bornu States, but without encouraging them to adopt the Mohammedan religion.

Such, in the briefest outline, was the task essayed by the Administration of Northern Nigeria between the date of its inauguration in 1900 up to the opening of the year under review. It had absorbed the whole-hearted devotion and enthusiasm of the Administrative Staff, and the greater part of the Protectorate had now been assessed. But its material resources had, from lack of easy access to the sea, remained largely undeveloped. It depended at first on a substantial grant-in-aid from the Imperial Exchequer, averaging about £274,000 per annum, and though this was being rapidly replaced by the product of the direct tax, which yielded in 1913 the large sum of £546,000—about half of which was paid into revenue, the remainder being assigned to the Native Administration—the essential needs of the country could not be met without a considerable additional revenue. This was just beginning to accrue, owing to the phenomenal development of the trade of the country due to the advent of the railway, but means were lacking for the development of roads, and for every other form of incentive to trade.

Southern Nigeria, on the other hand, presented a picture which was in almost all points the exact converse of that in the North. Here the material prosperity had been extraordinary. The revenue had almost doubled itself in a period of five years. The surplus balances exceeded a million and a half. The trade of the interior had been greatly developed by the construction of a splendid system of roads, and by the opening to navigation of waterways hitherto choked with vegetation, while railways, harbour works, waterworks, and other capital expenditure, aggregating many millions of loan commitments, were in process. *Ad valorem* duties (derived in part on goods for Northern Nigeria) were abolished on one class of imports after another, and for the most part only specific duties were retained. And so while Northern Nigeria was devoting itself to building up a system of Native Administration and laboriously raising a revenue by direct taxation, Southern Nigeria had found itself engrossed in material development. In the sphere of Executive Government the South was divided into three Provincial Administrations, under Commissioners

whose powers in regard to the natives were under little control from headquarters, while the departmental staff was largely increased by this system of separate and semi-independent provincial rule, and the nominal heads of departments had little control.

Upon amalgamation this "Provincial System" was abolished, and the whole area was re-divided into nine Provinces under Commissioners directly responsible to the Lieutenant-Governor, and entrusted with important duties and powers in regard to the conduct of native affairs, but limited in relation to the departments, which were placed under their own heads. During the year, steps were taken to define the duties and functions of the Commissioners of these new Provinces and their staff towards the great population—estimated at nearly eight millions—for whose welfare they were responsible; but very much remains to be done in this direction.

Some few departments, whose functions were common to both North and South, were "centralised," viz., placed directly under the Governor-General, who is assisted by a "Central Secretariat." These included the Military, the Railway, the Marine, the Judiciary, and the Customs, the latter of which is responsible for the collection of duties on the inland frontiers as well as on the sea-board. To these were added later the Treasury, Audit, and Surveys.

Some few other departments, though duplicated in each of the two great areas into which the Protectorate was now divided, were, for purposes of co-ordination and general control, placed under a common head. Thus the Medical and Sanitary Departments in each area were under their own "Principal Medical Officers" and "Senior Sanitary Officers," but both were subject to the general control of the Director of the Medical and Sanitary Service. The Public Works were separately organised under two Directors, but a "Director of Railways and Works" was appointed as adviser to the Governor-General on all matters connected with railways and public works. The Attorney-General, the Postmaster-General, and the Chief Conservator of Forests, occupied similar positions in regard to their respective departments in the North and South. The general business of Nigeria is also conducted through the Central Secretariat.

The remaining Departments, Political, Agriculture, Education, Lands, Mines, Police, and Prisons, were completely decentralised, and their heads in the North and the South are immediately under the Lieutenant-Governor.

The Departments of the Southern Provinces include the Colony in their spheres of administration, and no distinction was made in this regard, except that, as far as possible, the requirements of the Colony are separately budgeted in the annual estimates, in order that the Legislative Council may be afforded an opportunity of criticism and suggestion.

JUDICIAL.

The Judicial system underwent considerable changes. The separate posts of Chief Justice of Northern Nigeria and of Southern Nigeria were abolished, and a single Supreme Court under a Chief Justice of Nigeria assisted by four Puisne Judges, was constituted. Three of the five judges normally take their leave during vacation in the rainy season, when work is slack owing to the difficulty of travel, while two remain as Vacation Judges. Experience has shown that this system promotes efficiency. "The Cantonment Magistrates" of the North, and the "Police Magistrates" of the South, were re-named "Station Magistrates" and were appointed to the principal centres as Commissioners of the Supreme Court.

In October three Ordinances (the enactment of which had been delayed owing to a purely technical alteration in the Letters Patent in regard to the form of words in the enacting clause) were introduced, which modified the constitution of the Supreme Court, created Provincial Courts in the Southern Provinces, and reconstituted the Native Courts of the Protectorate.

Hitherto the Supreme Court in the Southern Provinces had exercised jurisdiction throughout the interior districts. The executive officers were Commissioners of this Court, and their cause lists were revised by the judges, who, under the "Provincial System," were practically independent in each province of any central control. Work was continually in arrears, partly because the Court was overloaded, partly because "it was compelled to hear numbers of cases relating to tribal disputes and land and fishery rights, which could much better have been dealt with by a differently constituted tribunal," and partly because the legal advisers of litigants asked for repeated adjournments on plausible grounds. It is obvious that litigation in these circumstances was often of greater benefit to counsel than to the litigants. It was with difficulty that the Court kept abreast of the criminal work, and since assizes were held only twice a year, long intervals often elapsed between arrest and trial.

Under the new Ordinance the territorial jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is limited to the Colony and to certain large centres which contain a considerable educated native or non-native population, and these can at any time be added to by the Governor. In addition it exercises a concurrent jurisdiction with the Provincial Courts over all non-natives throughout Nigeria. Cases may also be transferred from the Provincial Courts at any time by order of the Governor. Occasion may be taken for such transfers of important cases when the Supreme Court is holding assizes in the neighbourhood, but since in Africa witnesses must be confined as prisoners lest they disappear, and their memories are short if brought from a distance, the purposes of justice are in ordinary cases better served by summary trial at the *locus* of the crime.

The system of Provincial Courts, which had worked well in Northern Nigeria since its inauguration as a Government under the Crown in 1900, was by the new Ordinance extended to the Southern Provinces.

These Courts exercise a jurisdiction equal to that of the Supreme Court, but no sentence of death, deportation, imprisonment exceeding six months, fine over £50, or corporal punishment exceeding twelve strokes, can be carried out until confirmed by the Governor or his delegate. The full powers of the Court are only vested *ex officio* in the Commissioner of a Province, but may be conferred on any District Officer with proper qualifications. All administrative officers are Commissioners of the Provincial Court, and exercise such varying powers as may be conferred upon them. Powers of confirmation are at present vested in the Lieutenant-Governors (as the Governor's delegates), advised by the "Legal Adviser" by whom the cause lists are carefully scrutinised. The promotion of executive officers largely depends on the care and ability with which they discharge their judicial functions, which are thus under the close supervision of the Lieutenant-Governors.

The result of these reforms has been satisfactory. The Chief Justice reports that the state of business in the Supreme Court is now "as satisfactory as it could be. The new system (he says) is working well beyond our most sanguine expectations. The immediate result of its application has been to curtail, or, rather, extinguish, the malign effort to stir up strife in the up-country districts through the medium of land disputes. . . . In my opinion (he adds) no legitimate business has been taken away from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, and it seems to me idle to deny that the system at present in force is a vast improvement upon the one it displaced." That the decrease in delays and the advantage of trial by an officer with knowledge of the local law and custom is appreciated by the natives themselves, is evidenced by a recent application in two land cases, commenced in the Supreme Court prior to October (when the Provincial Courts came into being in the Southern Provinces), to be non-suited in order to renew proceedings in the Provincial Court. The Supreme and the Provincial Courts have worked in complete harmony.

This reform, which, prior to its introduction, had met with the approval of the Chief Justice and of the Legal Officers, was unfortunately regarded with much disfavour by the educated natives of Lagos and Calabar, apparently because of the exclusion of practitioners from the Provincial Courts. Experience had shown that their presence in the District Officers' Courts (formally under the Supreme Court) had tended to the increase of undesirable litigation.

The new Native Courts Ordinance reconstituted these Courts as purely native tribunals, occupied chiefly with matrimonial and debt cases and other matters subject to native law and custom. Hitherto in the Southern Provinces they had been presided over by the District Officer, their procedure had been modelled on that of the Supreme Court, to which appeals lay and by which their cause lists were checked, and it was stated that they were largely subservient to the Native Court Clerk (an alien to the district on a low salary) and to the interpreter. In these circumstances the Court was somewhat of a hybrid, affording but little opportunity for real development as a native tribunal.

The fines and fees were for the first time included, like those of other Courts, in the revenues of the Protectorate, instead of forming a separate unaudited fund at the disposal of Provincial Commissioners. In Ibadan a forward step was made by placing the Native Judges on fixed salaries.

An Attorney-General for Nigeria was appointed to assist the Governor-General, while each Lieutenant-Governor had the assistance of a "Legal Adviser." Little apparent progress was made with the revision of the laws and their consolidation and re-enactment for Nigeria as a whole, but much work was done in the preparation of Ordinances which were enacted in the following year. A list of the principal enactments will be found in a former paragraph.

CUSTOMS AND FISCAL FRONTIERS.

The amalgamation of Northern and Southern Nigeria involved the abolition of the fiscal frontier between the two Administrations. Customs had for the most part been collected on all imports (whether for the North or South) at the ports of Southern Nigeria, but a surtax on salt was imposed on the Northern Nigeria frontier. This was now abolished, and at the same time the similar surtax on native-made salt, entering over the northern land frontiers, was not only abolished, but occasion was taken to cease the collection of Customs duties on the land frontiers of Nigeria, with the exception of the two "Ports of entry" at Yola (where the Benue enters from German West Africa) and Illo (where the Niger crosses the Anglo-French frontier) which had been constituted under the Nigerian Transit Order in Council. This was a great boon to native traders, and it eliminated a constant source of bribery of native officials, and of inequalities of taxation due to the absence of Customs officials, and the inability of District Officers to discharge these duties over many hundreds of miles of frontier, in addition to their more immediate political work.

THE WAR.

The second event of paramount importance to the country was the outbreak of war in the early days of August. The Europeans, official and unofficial, enrolled themselves as volunteers at the principal centres, and worked with enthusiasm at the task of rendering themselves efficient soldiers, while the leading natives in the coast towns came forward as Special Constables to relieve the Police. At the centres most threatened, Lagos and Calabar, constant drills were carried out, and in the former the force numbered 200. Committees of Control for the regulation of food prices and the control of the sale of various articles were appointed, but ceased to be required, and were dissolved on November 1st.

Steps were taken for the defence of the Port of Lagos, and preparations were made for the despatch of a strong Nigerian contingent to join the Allied Forces under General Dobell, which towards the end of September attacked Duala, the capital of the neighbouring German Colony of the Cameroons.

The Nigerian contingent consisted of 65 British Officers and N.C.O.'s and 1,260 native rank and file, with 4 guns, 8 Maxims, and large reserves of ammunition and warlike stores. Attached to the force as volunteers were 79 civil officials, some as combatants and others for various duties (railway, political, etc.), together with 12 unofficals.

A Naval Force was also fitted out, consisting of 40 Marine officers and 250 trained native ratings with 18 vessels, most of them specially protected by plating and strengthened to carry heavy guns, this work being carried out in the workshops of the Marine Department.

The Nigerian contingents are reported by the General Officer Commanding and the Senior Naval Officer to have rendered most signal and gallant services, and they bore their share in the heaviest part of the fighting which resulted in the capture of Duala and Buea, the commercial and administrative capitals on the coast, and the seizure of the two lines of railway, each about 100 miles long, which ran north and east from Duala.

In addition to its participation in this expedition, Nigeria maintained on its frontiers and in the Cameroons an even larger force in co-operation with the French troops. In August it consisted of 92 British Officers and N.C.O.'s, with 2,040 rank and file; and, up to the end of December, an average number of 100 civilians, drawn from Government Departments and from the mining and commercial communities, were attached to it as volunteers. The cost to the end of the year of these various forces was about £136,000, of which £82,000 was met from votes in the Estimates. The force was divided into three main columns, operating from Maidugeri in the North, from Yola on the Benue River, and from Ikom on the Cross River; while detached patrols engaged the enemy between these points. The Northern column besieged the German force on the Mora Mountain; the Yola column attacked the stronghold of Garua—at first unsuccessfully; and the Ikom column fought a desperate engagement at Nsanakang, where, though opposed by overwhelming numbers, they inflicted very severe losses on the enemy. These engagements took place early in September, and during the remainder of the year our forces constantly maintained the offensive, and were uniformly successful whenever they came in contact with the enemy.

Nigeria itself was largely denuded of troops, owing to the demands of these various forces operating against the Germans. Owing also to the large number of volunteers who had been allowed to join the forces in the field, its Administrative Staff, upon whom the Government relies to maintain order and dispel false rumours, was greatly reduced.

In the Mohammedan Emirates of the north there was, however, no vestige of unrest, in spite of the fact that a severe famine synchronised with the outbreak of war. One and all were enthusiastic in their loyalty and in their offers of assistance. Among the pagan tribes in the south of the Northern Provinces, however, and throughout the greater part of the Southern Provinces, there was much unrest due to reports that the British were leaving the country, or to rumours

spread by German emissaries that we had met with reverses in Europe and the Cameroons. None of these outbreaks were of a serious nature, but a large number of expeditions—in many cases consisting of volunteers and Police, who rendered most efficient service in the field—were necessary to restore order. The loyalty of the more civilised sections of the population, who had learned to appreciate the advantages of British rule, was, however, amply proved and among these there was a real and widespread detestation of the Germans and their methods in Africa. The Northern Emirs contributed £38,000 to the cost of the war from the funds in their Treasuries, in addition to many large and spontaneous gifts, following the example of the Sultan of Sokoto, who gave £1,000 from his private purse. They also gave willing assistance in supplying carriers, food, and other necessaries. In the South many funds were set on foot among the educated population.

Over 400 German prisoners of war and deported persons, were received from Duala and temporarily housed in a camp at Ibadan and at other centres, or on the steamers on which they arrived, until vessels could be chartered and fitted up for their removal to England. The many enemy firms in Nigeria were treated with every consideration, and were at first allowed to continue their business, on condition that they neither remitted money to, nor traded with, Germany. But when evidence was forthcoming that some among them had endeavoured to incite the natives to rebellion—though this action was indignantly repudiated by others—it was decided to deport them all, and a Receiver was appointed to wind up their businesses. Every possible care and attention was bestowed upon these prisoners, and every courtesy was shown to the women, some of whom were hospitably entertained by the Mission Societies. The best arrangements possible in such difficult circumstances were made for their comfort, both in Nigeria and on the homeward voyage. In all, 768 men, 33 women, and 8 children were deported to England from Nigeria up to the end of the year, including those received from the Cameroons.

OTHER EVENTS.

Apart from the amalgamation and the War, the following were the chief political events of the year :—

In July, 1914, serious disturbances were threatened in Abeokuta, and the Alake once again appealed to Government for the assistance of troops to enforce his authority and protect himself and his officials. Troops were sent, and an *emeute* resulted in which there was a deplorable loss of life among the malcontents. Two educated natives of Lagos, of some social standing, were placed on their trial for inciting to riot, and were found guilty. Although in the emergency troops had been sent, at the request of the Alake supported by the Commissioner, it was manifest that the Government could not consent to enforce the orders of the Alake by such measures without any adequate knowledge of the origin of the trouble, which might possibly have been dealt with without a resort to force. The Alake was therefore invited to place his territories under the Government without reservation, and he

gladly availed himself of the opportunity. The old treaty was abrogated on 16th September, 1914, and Egba-land thenceforth fell into line with the rest of the Provinces. An inquiry is still proceeding into the circumstances under which a number of persons lost their lives on this occasion.

Early in the year the waterworks at Abeokuta were completed and formally inaugurated by the Governor, but the distribution is still inadequate.

The late King of Benin (Southern Provinces), who had been in exile since the tragedy of 1897 (when Commissioner Phillips and almost the whole of his party lost their lives), died during the year, and his son was installed as Oba amid great rejoicing, his appointment being conditional on recognition of the suzerain power of Government. This, together with the steps taken in Abeokuta (Egba-land) and Ibadan, may be regarded as the initiation of a system of ruling through the native chiefs, the development of which will be traced in later reports.

The Eastern Railway.—The area which lies to the S.E. of the Udi range of hills, commencing about 70 miles from the seaward terminus of the projected new railway from Port Harcourt, forms the water-parting between the basins of the Niger on the west, the Benue on the north, the Cross River on the east, and the rivers which flow southwards to the sea. It presents a chaos of densely wooded hills and ravines, which involve as difficult a belt of country for a railway to traverse as can be imagined. Obviously in such a country the selection of the best location is of paramount importance, and may save an enormous initial outlay and costly realignments later. In order, therefore, to assist the railway surveyors, the Topographical survey was withdrawn from the Western Provinces of the South where it had done such excellent work in the Geodetic Survey, and commenced work from Port Harcourt northwards along the Imo valley in the country through which the railway would pass. Owing to the admirable work done by Captain Rowe and his trained and organised parties, Mr. Selander, the railway surveyor, was enabled to select a location which he could confidently assert was not merely a feasible one, but the best which could possibly be obtained.

Unfortunately the object of the survey parties was misunderstood by the natives, whose fears that Government intended to confiscate all their lands had been sedulously excited by agitators from the coast, and there was some unrest, culminating in attacks upon working parties, which had to be forcibly suppressed. These difficulties were naturally aggravated by the necessity for acquiring the necessary land for the railway, and for engaging large gangs of labourers for construction. Had the difficulties been under-estimated or ignored they would doubtless have become serious. The fact that they have melted away may be ascribed not merely to the policy pursued, but in particular to the influence, ability, and tact of Messrs. James, Hargrove, and Graham. The former, whose long residence in these districts enabled him to exercise great influence with the chiefs and people, explained the advantages to trade which the railway would

bring with it, and collected gangs of many thousands of labourers. on the assurance that they would be regularly paid a weekly wage and relieved by others after a definite period. Mr. Hargrove, by similar explanations to large audiences of the leading men of each district, disarmed opposition to the acquisition of the land required, for which full compensation was agreed on. Mr. Graham, the railway engineer, under whose immediate charge the labourers worked, maintained his reputation as the most skilful labour-master in Nigeria, and in an incredibly short time transformed a mob of naked savages of the lowest type into willing labourers working on piece-work tasks and cheerfully doing a fair day's work.

Great as the results of a railway are in the development of the natural resources of a country like Africa, the moral advancement and education of these primitive tribes in habits of discipline and in confidence in the Government is an asset of even greater value ; and in my judgment the creation of an absolutely free labour market, the conception of the definite money value of a fixed task (for which the individual is personally paid without the intermediary of any chief or task-master), are most potent methods for the eradication of the servile status so engrained in the tribes of Africa, and for creating that sense of individuality by which alone the root principles of slavery can be abolished.

Well arranged labour camps, with adequate housing, and a market in which supplies of imported food can be purchased at reasonable prices ; the entire prohibition of trade liquor (although in the centre of the " liquor zone ") ; and the substitution of coinage for the archaic forms of currency, were all means employed to the same end.

The progress made by the railway during the year is fully described above.

The progress made with the scheme for deepening the entrance to Lagos Harbour is fully set out in a previous paragraph. Important decisions were reached after exhaustive investigations as to the best site for the large wharf-accommodation necessitated by the enormous expansion of trade. As a result it was decided to abandon the projected wharves at Wilmot Point, which could only be connected with the railway by a branch line traversing the densely populated island of Lagos and by constructing a new bridge across the lagoon at prohibitive cost. The new scheme provides for an extension of the wharf at Apapa by 180 feet (345 feet in all), and the dredging of a 26 feet channel to it from the vicinity of Five-Cowrie Creek. These wharves, which are connected with the main line, will accommodate the up-country traffic. The Customs wharves on Lagos Island will also be extended by 400 feet (making 1,187 feet in all), with a dredged approach. The wharf at Iddo Island (sufficient for branch boats, but not for liners owing to the Elegbata shoals) has been improved, and a wharf for lighters has been built there, while an extension of the main wharf and a large reorganisation of the railway terminal yards, at a cost of £81,000, was approaching

completion at the end of the year. The costly reclamation plant reached Lagos in March, but the work had to be postponed owing to the war. Negotiations were entered into with Messrs. Elder Dempster & Co., for a floating dock, to replace the one wrecked on its way out from England.

The waterworks at Iju (17 miles from Lagos), which were begun in October, 1910, practically reached completion in 1914, though the supply was not actually inaugurated until the following year. The volume of the Adiyari stream from which the water is obtained is calculated at $6\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons per diem in the dry weather. The water is pumped from two 12 feet wells by two driving and three forcing engines into two settling tanks (capacity 10 million gallons), whence it passes to the filter beds, 8 in number, and thence to the clear water tank, which has a storage capacity of 2,000,000 gallons and is floored and roofed with concrete. From this tank the service reservoir (6,000,000 gallons) is supplied. From the reservoir (which also has a concrete roof, so that the water is not again exposed to the air after it leaves the filter beds) the water is conveyed by gravitation through 28-inch pipes to Lagos and Ebute Metta, where it is distributed by mains varying from 3 inches to 15 inches, and with an aggregate length of 28 miles. They serve 200 street fountains and 350 fire hydrants, and have a capacity of $2\frac{1}{4}$ million gallons per day. The total expenditure on the works amounted to £296,700 (£83,123 in 1914) and it is estimated that a further expenditure of about £15,000 will be required for laying the water to Apapa, and for other items not included in the original estimate (upon which there will be a saving). This great work was designed and executed by Mr. H. Peet, now Director of Public Works of the Southern Provinces.

An abnormally poor rainfall—the second in succession—resulted in a somewhat wide-spread scarcity of food in the North, and in some places in acute famine, which was relieved by importation of rice from England. Large numbers of starving refugees flocked into British from French territory.

Various sporadic outbreaks of cattle-disease took place in various parts of the Northern Provinces, and since the total number of cattle is estimated at upwards of 3,000,000 head (an estimate which is not likely to be inaccurate, since it is based on the Jangali or cattle tax), fears were entertained of a more general epidemic, which was fortunately averted.

The creation of a small Veterinary Department, in view of the enormous value of the stock in the Northern Provinces, must rank as one of the events of the year. The Veterinary Officer in a general report states that "the ponies are wonderfully good, and include animals which could be shown anywhere and not disgrace the best class . . . the sheep are large-framed, while the camels, donkeys, and goats are all of a fairly good standard, and . . . the cattle are extremely good." Mr. Owen truly observes that the fact "that such an immense herd of stock can live under natural conditions, with no help, is sufficient to prove Nigeria to be a healthy country. . . . For a tropical country, it must take a very high place when compared with other countries."

TRADE AND GENERAL DEVELOPMENT.

The financial position and the state of trade have been dealt with under the appropriate sections of this report. It is sufficient to note here that the trade and progress, which had been normal and rapidly expanding during the first half of the year, as shown by the receipts from Customs and Railway, received a serious set-back on the outbreak of war. Prices of palm oil and kernels in the South, and of groundnuts in the North, fell so low that the native was unable to dispose of his produce. The scanty rainfall in the North caused a failure of export crops and an abnormally "low Niger," which added to the depression of trade. More normal conditions prevailed, however, towards the close of the year. The revenue in consequence suffered heavily.

It is a remarkable illustration of the financial prosperity of Nigeria that, in spite of the exclusion from the estimates of the Native Administration Funds (about £326,500); of an increased expenditure on the railway of about £210,600; of a large programme of public works and railway extension exceeding £300,000; and of a loss of revenue due to the war amounting to £167,000, the realised revenue exceeded £3,000,000, and a sum of £629,000 was expended from it on the new Eastern Railway. The surplus assets stood at the end of the year at £1,273,000, being half a million in excess of the sum anticipated, with a further £150,000, to the credit of the Native Treasuries.

The prospects of trade have already been discussed in the section devoted to this subject. I will merely remark here that, so soon as the present war conditions cease, there is every prospect of increased prosperity. The conditions, which are at present adverse to trade, are mainly two, viz., the low prices offered for raw produce (especially oil nuts), and the lack of adequate ocean shipping. To these may be added the withdrawal of the German firms.

In regard to the first, prices were already tending to recover towards the close of the year. The second is no doubt temporary and due to war conditions, though the withdrawal of the Woermann line will necessitate a larger British service. Finally, there is no fear but that British firms are fully competent to absorb the trade hitherto done by German competitors, if they will realise that a proportionate increase of capital is required, and will learn the lesson which the collection of German and Austrian samples sent home last autumn should have taught them, viz., that a larger variety of cheap goods (especially hardware) is required, and that greater efforts must be made to capture new markets. On the other hand, the opening of the Eastern Railway, which taps one of the wealthiest palm areas in Africa, and the supply of local coal from Udi, should afford an enormous impetus to trade and development in the East, while the opening of the Lagos Harbour to the largest ocean vessels plying in these seas should afford an equal stimulus in the West.

Full details regarding the Nigerian Railway (Open Lines) are given under the appropriate head. The revenue continued to increase rapidly until interfered with by the war; rates were decreased, and the very large capital expenditure (paid from revenue) will soon

complete its equipment with fully adequate rolling-stock and plant for the workshops on the one hand, and the initial ballasting of the Baro-Kano Railway on the other hand. When these are completed the capital expenditure should show a large decrease, with proportionately larger returns to general revenue. The extension of the light branch line from Zaria to Bukuru, the centre of the tin mining industry, was completed. It involved the ascent of the plateau from Jengre, the previous terminus (3,026 feet), to Bukuru (4,356 feet). The French have availed themselves largely of the Lagos-Kano line (712 miles) to bring up stores and supplies for their Zinder and Chad territories. The terminus of the line is 67 miles from the French frontier. Projects for decreasing the difficulty of transporting these stores over that distance were necessarily postponed on account of the war.

The very heavy demands on the revenue for railway extension, the new capital, etc., and later the economy necessitated by the war, made it impossible to embark on any large programme of road construction. The most important new road is that from Zaria to Sokoto, and a little progress was made with this towards Maska.

The mining industry suffered at the outbreak of war from the sharp fall in the price of tin, and the companies made matters worse by discharging their labour. Many thousands of natives thus discharged dispersed in search of a livelihood, and, when it was desired to re-employ them, they could not be found. Government made very liberal reductions in railway freight, not merely on ore, but on oil fuel and machinery, etc., and also reduced the royalties, so that the Chairman of the Chamber of Mines was able to inform his audience at the annual meeting on December 2nd, that "the position, as far as the effect of the war on the winning, shipping, and sale of tin is concerned, is once more normal." 6,175 tons of ore were exported.

Northern Provinces.—The system of Native Administration in the Northern Provinces continues to make satisfactory progress. There are 49 separate Treasuries, with an aggregate revenue in 1914 of £326,508, and with reserves invested of £54,650, and cash balances of £78,700. The Native Administrations were able to make a contribution to the war of £38,000 without trenching on these reserves. Detailed assessment was steadily carried on, though latterly interfered with by the paucity of officers due to the war. Native "*taki*" surveyors were employed to make rough and ready surveys of "farms" in the densely populated Provinces of Kano and Sokoto, as a guide to the assessment of the "General Tribute" tax. The incidence of the General Tax is light, varying, per adult male, from 6d. per annum to 10s. 6d. The total collection stood at £594,896, of which £291,249 was assigned to the Native Treasuries in addition to their revenue from Native Courts, Market dues, etc.

The Native Judiciary is now salaried at a cost of £23,704 for the 391 Native Courts. The bulk of the cases before the Courts are claims for debt and matrimonial disputes. In one Province alone (Sokoto) 16,692 cases were heard. There are 38 native gaols, maintained at a

cost of £6,705, and their organisation and sanitation continue to improve steadily. Prisoners are employed on works and on prison farms. The Police (*Dogarai*) under the control of the Native Administration number 1,762, at a cost of £21,949; they have proved efficient.

The social condition of the people of the Northern Provinces may, I think, be unhesitatingly described as one of unprecedented prosperity. Money has poured into the country during the past six years, first by the employment of many thousands by Government on railway construction, later by the disbursements for labour made by the mining community, and *pari passu* with the other two, by the extraordinary development of trade—especially in groundnuts and hides—due to the advent of the railway. Whereas a few years ago the cowrie (of which from 2,400 to 1,200, according to distance from the Niger, were tendered for 1s.) was the sole medium of exchange, the natives now possess considerable sums of sterling coin, and their standard of living has proportionately advanced.

The following table gives the number of slaves freed by the Courts since the inauguration of the Administration on 1st January, 1900. It is, of course, very far from including *all* who have been liberated, since large numbers were, no doubt, omitted from the records of the Native Courts, especially in the earlier years, when these were very imperfect; and very many (probably many thousands) were at that time set free or left their masters without the knowledge of the Government, as the result of the conquest of each Emirate.

Freed by Provincial Courts :—

Ill-treatment by owners	382
Contravention of Slavery Proclamation ..	3,256
Redemption	63
Various	509

Freed by Native Courts :—

Ill-treatment by owners	155
Self-redemption	12,701
Redemption by relatives	11,679
Manumission by owners	4,011
Decease of owners	194
Various	5,048
Total	37,998

Of these, 14,687 were liberated in the Sokoto Province, nearly all being "allowed to follow their own inclinations," and all (except 36) being liberated by order of the Mohammedan Native Courts. This is the more striking, since Sokoto was formerly the leading slave province to whose Emir, as head of the Moslems, all other Emirates used in old

days to send a *Gaiusa* (present) of slaves annually. The great majority of these 38,000 freed slaves were "allowed to follow their own inclinations" or restored to their relatives; but children whose relatives could not be traced were sent to the Freed Slaves' Home at Zungeru or to the Freed Slave village in Bornu, or allotted to carefully selected guardians. Shortly after the Government assumed administration of Northern Nigeria, I issued a Slavery Proclamation which declared that all children born after 1st April, 1901, were born free. I learn that the Native Courts of Sokoto are vigilant in enforcing this rule. On the 1st April next there will therefore be no slave in the Northern Provinces of Nigeria under the age of 15.

The natives of the Southern Provinces have always been comparatively wealthy, owing to their possession of the great staple export of palm oil and palm kernels.

The attempt to maintain a quasi-independent Government in Egba-land had, as I have elsewhere narrated, failed for political reasons. Its revenue was derived chiefly from various licences and a sur-tax on liquor entering the country, which led to smuggling and hampered the trade of the country, while the revenue derived from them was insufficient to meet its expenditure. No new system was, however, inaugurated before the end of the year.

Lagos possesses a Municipal Board of Health, but since no rates are levied, the revenue of the Board is chiefly derived from a large Government grant, and its initiative is consequently very restricted. The Board is presided over by the Administrator, and consists of five official and five unofficial members (exclusive of the President). The average grant from revenue for the past five years stands at £17,280. Large sums have, in past years, been spent, in addition, from general revenue, in reclamation of swamp land, general sanitary improvements, the laying out of a "Marina" sea front, and other great improvements. The town is lighted by electricity, for which no charge is made upon Municipal funds. The preliminary steps for assessing the town for a water rate were undertaken, in view of the approaching completion of the extensive waterworks. The prospect of paying even a moderate water rate for the filtered water from Iju, in lieu of the contaminated supply from local wells (which frequently fails in the dry season), has been the subject of much agitation and of petitions to the Secretary of State.

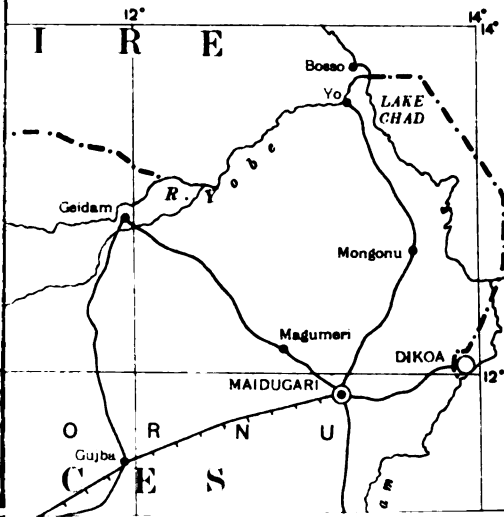
In some few other coast towns of the Southern Provinces local Boards of Health are in existence, and have done useful advisory work in matters of sanitation, but in the absence of rates they are without funds, and their usefulness is much restricted.

In the Northern Provinces, Zungeru and Lokoja are "Cantonments," and a small rate is levied, as well as a "Conservancy Tax." The funds, which are augmented by a small grant from revenue averaging about £1,300, are administered by a Cantonment Magistrate. During the year Kano and Zaria were created "Cantonments."

The climate of the Southern Provinces, and of large portions of the Northern Provinces, is unsuitable for the continual residence of Europeans; but on the plateaux in the North, as, for instance, at the minefields, Europeans and their wives have enjoyed good health for periods of three years at a time. It is not a country for white labour, and indeed white labour—on whichever side of the argument the experience of the Rand in South Africa may be quoted—can never be employed with success in a country with a dense native population, for reasons which it is not here opportune to describe. The cost of living shows a tendency to increase rapidly in the centres at which there are European communities.

Nigeria offers excellent opportunities for the investment of capital, whether in the Government loans for railway and other development, in the shares of commercial and mining firms, or in private enterprise backed by local experience, such as dealing in livestock or plantations of cocoa, coconut, rubber, fibres, etc. The current rate of wages is about 1s. a day for unskilled, and 3s. for skilled native labour. Freight on produce from coast ports to Europe is about £1 a ton. Railway rates, of course, vary according to grade and distance from the coast, the more distant districts deriving advantage from the "taper"; but for ordinary low grade produce it may be calculated on an average of 1½d. per ton mile.

F. D. LUGARD.

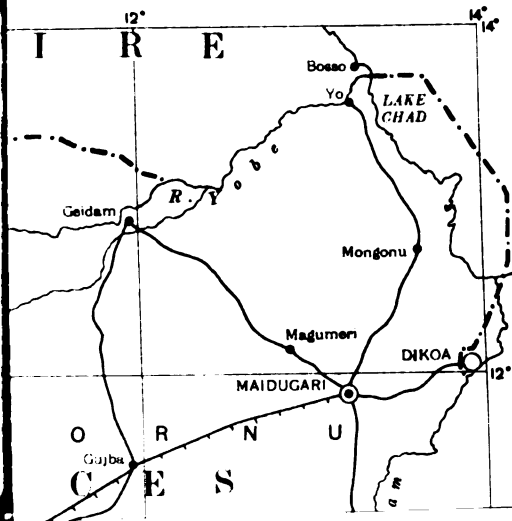


AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

The climate of the Southern Provinces, and of large portions of the Northern Provinces, is unsuitable for the continual residence of Europeans; but on the plateaux in the North, as, for instance, at the minefields, Europeans and their wives have enjoyed good health for periods of three years at a time. It is not a country for white labour, and indeed white labour—on whichever side of the argument the experience of the Rand in South Africa may be quoted—can never be employed with success in a country with a dense native population, for reasons which it is not here opportune to describe. The cost of living shows a tendency to increase rapidly in the centres at which there are European communities.

Nigeria offers excellent opportunities for the investment of capital, whether in the Government loans for railway and other development, in the shares of commercial and mining firms, or in private enterprise backed by local experience, such as dealing in livestock or plantations of cocoa, coconut, rubber, fibres, etc. The current rate of wages is about 1s. a day for unskilled, and 3s. for skilled native labour. Freight on produce from coast ports to Europe is about £1 a ton. Railway rates, of course, vary according to grade and distance from the coast, the more distant districts deriving advantage from the "taper"; but for ordinary low grade produce it may be calculated on an average of 1½d. per ton mile.

F. D. LUGARD.



UNIVERSITY OF CHAD

APPENDIX.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE IMPORTATION OF SPIRITS INTO NIGERIA DURING THE FIVE YEARS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1914.

Year.	Quantity in gallons.*	Declared value. £	Revenue. derived from duties. £	Duty chargeable.	Remarks.
1910	4,748,139 (1,973,910)	456,485	999,823	From 15th January, 1909, duty on spirits was 5s. per imperial gallon and an additional 2½d. for every degree in excess of 50 degrees, and a decrease of 1½d. for every degree below 50 degrees, with a minimum duty of 4s. the imperial gallon.	Value of spirit imports amounted to 7·79 per cent. of whole inward trade, including specie.
1911	4,835,363 (1,839,960)	440,818	975,557	Brandy, whisky, and gin not treated as trade spirits, 5s. per imperial gallon. As above	7·76 per cent. as above.
1912	4,450,196 (1,774,856)	440,952	1,013,807	From 4th March, 5s. 6d. the imperial gallon and 2½d. additional for every degree above 50 degrees. 1½d. reduction for every degree below 50 degrees, with a minimum of 4s. 6d.	6·90 per cent. as above.
1913	4,635,273 (1,853,750)	452,939	1,138,305	From 25th March, 6s. 3d. the imperial gallon and 2½d. additional for every degree above 50 degrees. 1½d. reduction for every degree below 50 degrees, with a minimum of 5s.	6·28 per cent. as above.
1914	3,509,344 (1,384,968)	344,926	923,065	Sweetened or obs ured spirit have been continuously taxed at 10s. the imperial gallon. As above	5 per cent. as above.

*Imports of spirits at 100° Tralles shown in brackets.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
845	Wei-hai-wei	1914
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915
874	British Guiana	"
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914-1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

1916.

No. 879.

CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).

REPORT FOR 1914-15.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 839.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

April, 1916.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE

By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of

T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd. 8172-5.] Price 1½d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
FINANCIAL	4
TRADE AND INDUSTRIES	5
SAVINGS BANK	7
POST OFFICE	7
JUDICIAL	8
LEGISLATIVE	8
PUBLIC WORKS	8
AGRICULTURE	9
POPULATION	9
EDUCATION	10
HOSPITAL	10
PRISONS AND CRIME	10
POLICE	10
GENERAL HEALTH	11
CLIMATE	12
SKETCH MAP.	

No. 879.

CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 839.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

King's House,
Jamaica,

12th February, 1916.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of the Blue Book of the Cayman Islands for the year 1914-15, together with a copy of the Commissioner's report thereon.

I have, &c.,

W. H. MANNING,

Governor.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT FOR 1914-15.

FINANCE.

The revenue of the Cayman Islands for the financial year ended the 30th September, 1915, amounted to a sum total of £3,343, and the expenditure to £3,038. The average revenue for the last five years is £3,671.

When regard is had to the present depressing effect on the trade of all countries in consequence of the War, with the natural and inevitable concomitants of uncertainty and anxiety, it cannot be said that the revenue has suffered to any very appreciable extent during the past year, though signs are apparent that these islands will not for long be permitted to enjoy such a favoured position.

Unlike the inhabitants of Grand Cayman who fish exclusively for the green turtle, those of the Lesser Islands confine their operations to the "Hawk's bill" turtle, from which tortoise shell is derived. There is at present more than £1,000 worth of shell on the London market which cannot be disposed of, Continental nations being the principal purchasers, while the market price has dropped considerably. The merchants and storekeepers refused to give credit, hence it was that those who possessed savings were forced to draw on their slender reserves of money, while others were compelled to live a hand-to-mouth existence. The price of coconuts too, on which commodity so many depend for a means of subsistence, has been comparatively low. Such were the conditions obtaining up to the month of August 1915.

On Friday, the 13th August, a hurricane of unprecedented severity devastated the island of Cayman Brac within the period of one hour, rendering the inhabitants homeless and in many cases destitute. Fortunately the death of one child only was reported. Of two hundred and sixty-one houses only one remained intact, while 75 per cent. were totally destroyed; 98 per cent. of the coconut trees at Cayman Brac have been blown down; at little Cayman 40 per cent. have met with a similar fate. All provision grounds were destroyed. Of Government property, in addition to the new Government Building completed two weeks before the storm which was unroofed and forced from its foundation, the old Court House, school house, lighthouse, and boat house, have been completely swept away. The actual damage sustained in respect of house property amounts approximately to between £7,000 and £8,000, and to coconut trees, £20,000, taking the average annual yield of a tree at one pound.

The road which runs by the seashore throughout the island has been for the most part obliterated and will require no inconsiderable sum to restore.

Many of the people who have habitually constituted Mother-earth their banker and deposited their savings within her apparently secure vaults, were unable to trace the hidden places in consequence of the effects of the hurricane.

The Government Medical Officer of Grand Cayman at once proceeded to the island with a supply of drugs. A supply of food-stuffs was as soon as possible forwarded to the sorely stricken inhabitants from Jamaica and clothes from Grand Cayman. This was supplemented a few weeks after by generous gifts of food from the merchants of Montego Bay, the Bank of Nova Scotia, the United Fruit Company, and by food, clothes, and subscriptions made in response to an appeal through the medium of the "Register" and "Daily Item" newspapers of Mobile, United States of America, in which town a considerable number of Caymanians reside.

A Relief Committee was duly appointed to distribute the food and clothing, and steps were taken by means of legislation for the granting of loans at a small rate of interest to those requiring the same in order to enable the inhabitants to rebuild their shattered houses.

Grand Cayman was not for long allowed to enjoy immunity from Nature's visitations. At 7 p.m. on Saturday evening, the 25th of September, strong winds sprang up which blew uninterruptedly with spasmodic gusts of great and increasing intensity until 6 p.m. on the following Monday morning.

The sea swept to a distance inland never experienced within the memory of the oldest living inhabitants, since the year 1846, completely destroying all ground provisions and much pasture land, and damaging the public roads to the extent of £250. Fortunately no appreciable loss was sustained in respect of house property.

Export Duty.—There is an export of 1s. per 1,000 on coconuts.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

On the 30th September, 1915, the assets of the Dependency amounted to £4,878.

The liabilities were £418 due to depositors in the Government Savings Bank and £53 due to depositors in Treasury; Money Order Account £1,697, making £2,168 in all.

TRADE AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

The value of the imports from all countries in 1914-15 has been £17,345.

The average for five years is £26,004.

EXPORTS.

The value of the exports to all countries amounted in 1914-15 to only £1,810.

The average for five years is £8,625.

The trade of these islands during the year under review cannot be said to have been affected by the war to the extent anticipated. A turtle-canning factory was erected in Georgetown and canning operations began in July. Five hundred turtle were canned in twenty-two days. This represents nine hundred and sixty cases, each case containing two dozen tins.

The calipee and skin of the turtle are put up separately from the meat itself. These are placed in cans of varying sizes, namely, 2 lbs. and 3 lbs., and in future 1 lb. tins will be added.

The prices paid under contracts of five years' duration are as follows:—51s. for grown females from 120 lbs. upwards, and 32s. 6d. for males of 120 lbs. upwards. These prices are somewhat in excess of those previously obtaining. Estimating the amount of turtle caught in the course of a year at two thousand head, this would yield approximately four thousand cases of twenty-four tins each.

There are at present forty people employed in the factory, with every prospect of an increase in this number as time goes on.

There was every reason to believe that the establishment of the factory would in a great measure have contributed towards the unimpaired maintenance of the economic life of the people inasmuch as the whole output was consigned to the United States of America with every prospect of a ready and reliable market; but, unfortunately, whether due to the war or other causes, the sales have been so slow—only a very few cases having been disposed of—that the promoters decided to suspend operations for the present until their efforts to place the consignment were rewarded with greater success. There does not, however, appear to be any reason at present to justify a verdict of failure. Foreign buyers, on whose support the people of Grand Cayman have hitherto depended have, as a result of the war, considerably curtailed their purchases.

Efforts will also be made to stimulate an interest in the cultivation of sponges. When regard is had to the success of this industry from small beginnings in other parts of the Empire, there does not appear to be any reason why equal success should not attend the establishment of it in the Cayman Islands. The only difficulty would seem to be the expert knowledge that would perhaps be required to initiate the people in the proper method of growing and curing. The growing of sponge would be a blessing to the people of the Lesser Islands now that the Hawk's bill turtle trade is at a standstill and the coconut industry crippled.

Unfortunately, the Williams Shipping Agency, of New York, with whom negotiations were entered into some time ago with a view to the establishment of direct steamship communication between

America, Jamaica, and Grand Cayman, have been forced to relinquish all idea of such an undertaking owing to the difficulty experienced in chartering vessels as a result of the war.

SHIPPING.

Georgetown, Grand Cayman, is a port of registry, having vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 307. The number of ships entered and cleared during the year 1914-15 is as follows:—

Entered	..	..	..	..	159
Cleared	..	..	..	..	169

SAVINGS BANK.

The Government Savings Bank, established in 1908, has proved of great use to those desirous of availing themselves of the opportunity offered for safe investment. The transactions for the financial year ended the 30th September, 1915, were:—

Deposits, £57.

Withdrawals, £204.

The balances to the credit of depositors at the end of the year amounted to £418 7s. 8d.

POST OFFICE.

The Post Office Department has since its establishment amply proved its usefulness and has contributed largely to the finances of the Dependency. For the last six years it has been the mainstay of these islands and has been responsible for nearly one half of the total revenue. In 1914-15 the Post Office revenue amounted to £1,355; the total revenue being £3,313.

The sale of postage stamps to collectors forms a very appreciable item in its revenue. The inland postal service shows a steady and favourable increase in the amount of business transacted, while the large receipts in respect of the foreign mail are due to the number of Caymanians who have been compelled to seek a livelihood in the Canal Zone, Cuba, Central American Republics, and the United States.

POST OFFICE ORDERS.

All money order business is transacted through Jamaica, the issue of orders in the Cayman Islands being at present confined to Georgetown, Grand Cayman, and Cayman Brac.

JUDICIAL.

There are two sittings of the Grand Court in each year, namely, in June and December. The Commissioner presides as Judge. The court has an unlimited civil and criminal jurisdiction except in cases of capital felony—Jamaica Law 11 of 1911. Quarterly Petty Courts and Weekly Petty Sessions are held, in which two Justices sit. The former deal with smaller civil actions, and the latter take cognizance of minor offences. Cases of serious crime are few and isolated, while the minor offences are generally the result of drink. In all cases in the Grand Court there is a right of appeal to the Jamaica Supreme Court and in the Petty Court to the Grand Court.

LEGISLATIVE.

The Legislative Assembly is styled "The Justices and Vestry," and is composed of all the Justices of the Peace (13 in number) and 27 Vestrymen. The Vestry meets by statute in September in each year to make provision for the next financial year, beginning on the 1st October, and otherwise when summoned for the despatch of business.

PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year under review £740 has been expended on public works, which includes the upkeep and improvement of Government property and the maintenance and construction of roads. Owing to the urgent necessity of effecting repairs to the main road from Georgetown to Boddentown, a distance of twelve miles, no road construction was undertaken, the sum of £547 being devoted exclusively to repair and maintenance on an extensive scale. The road is, for the greater portion of its length, constructed of soft marl, and its condition by reason of the ordinary wear and tear of traffic and continual rains was far from satisfactory before these repairs were executed. Efforts will be made during the coming year to connect Georgetown and West Bay by a driving road. The latter town is fast becoming a busy and prosperous centre of trade, and the necessity of opening up this portion of Grand Cayman is urgent.

A sea wall was built in Georgetown and a large part of the ground in front of the Court House has been filled in, thus removing one of the most dangerous spots for vehicular traffic in the island. The Government pier at Northsound has also been put in a thorough state of repair.

In consequence of the damage done to the roads in various portions of Grand Cayman by the high seas, a result of the hurricane, an expenditure of about £250 has been necessary. The road for one mile and a half through Spotts having been completely obliterated and the sea wall demolished, this portion of road alone has cost £180 to restore.

A new and commodious two-storey building has been erected at Stake Bay, Cayman Brac, consisting of the Post and Customs offices on the ground floor and Court House above. Unfortunately, the building, completed two weeks before the hurricane, was forced from its foundation, unroofed, and damaged in other parts by the storm.

AGRICULTURE.

A branch of the Jamaica Agricultural Society was established in Georgetown in 1908, but does not appear to be progressing as satisfactorily as such a movement deserves. There is always a lamentable scarcity of ground provisions, though Georgetown affords a ready market for their sale. £18 a year is voted for agricultural purposes and for the granting of prizes at the annual Agricultural Show by way of encouragement. During the past year no meetings have been held. The attendance at meetings in the past has been most unsatisfactory, and it would seem that the members have lost interest in the subject.

The provision grounds throughout the Cayman Islands were, with very few exceptions, totally destroyed by the hurricanes and high seas. The larger portion of the land in Grand Cayman is devoted to the growing of guinea grass and the rearing of cattle and horses. There are in Grand Cayman about 2,000 head of cattle and about 250 horses.

POPULATION.

In June, 1911, a census of the Cayman Islands was taken, showing a total population of 5,564. Of these 2,322 are white, 2,211 are coloured, and 1,031 black. 3,087 were returned as able to read and write, 749 as able to read only, and 1,728, including children, as illiterate. In religious denomination the people are mainly Presbyterian, 3,364 being returned as such. There were 981 Baptists, all in the Lesser Islands, and 357 are returned as of the "Church of God." During 1915 there were 171 births, 81 males and 90 females. Of these 143 were legitimate and 28 illegitimate. In the same period there were 44 deaths, 26 males and 18 females.

EDUCATION.

The state of education in the Dependency is far from satisfactory, especially in the country districts. £250 a year is devoted to education. The conditions obtaining at the present time do not offer any attractions to good and reliable teachers. The latter in all "registered" schools receive a capitation grant from the Government of 5s. a year for every pupil on his books, and a fee of 3d. up to the third standard, and 6d. from the fourth standard upwards in the case of destitute children. All parents and guardians pay a similar fee of 3d. and 6d. for the education of their children. While the Government grant is of great assistance to the teachers, they are largely dependent on the collection of fees from private individuals, who cannot always be relied upon to pay, and in a large number of cases offer payment in kind instead of cash. The result is that teachers, whether fit or unfit, must be tolerated or the schools must close, as in the case of Gun Bay, and East End, where children are growing up in ignorance. All children between the ages of six and fourteen years residing within two miles of a school are required to attend 75 per cent. of the sessions of the school every term. A Government school has been established at Northside during the past year. Owing to the increased price of foodstuffs and the probable effect on the revenue of the Islands in consequence of the war and the hurricanes, it has not been considered advisable to bring forward the contemplated Bill in respect of increasing the present *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. by 2½ per cent. to provide for free and compulsory education. The probability of this measure being adopted within the near future appears very remote.

HOSPITAL.

There is a small building kept for the purpose of isolating infectious diseases but it is not generally used. Government Medical Officers are appointed for the Lesser Islands and Grand Cayman, whose duty it is to visit all the outlying districts.

PRISONS AND CRIME.

There are no prisons in the Dependency. Prisoners sentenced to more than six months' imprisonment are sent to Jamaica. There is very little crime, and offences are generally of a trivial nature, in most cases the result of excessive drinking.

POLICE.

The police force consists of an Inspector, five policemen, and one district constable, the services of the police in the country districts being utilized in the carriage of inland mails.

GENERAL HEALTH.

The death rate for the year was 8 per 1,000.

The following is the Government Medical Officer's Annual Report on the Cayman Islands:—

"I propose to deal with Grand Cayman as a whole there being nothing peculiar to any one district as regards temperature, situation, or vegetation.

"Diseases of the Digestive System.

"1. Acute Tonsillitis has been frequent, especially during the past three months. This, I should like to impress upon the inhabitants is a simple ailment, occasionally with serious and even fatal complications, hence the necessity of immediate and careful treatment.

"2. Indigestion and Dyspepsia:—This is widespread and attacks all ages, even those of tender years. It is due to the excessive consumption of a carbohydrate or starchy diet in the form of the cassava and sweet potato. It being impossible to eliminate these from the every day dietary, I have advised the people to boil their cassava longer, also to eat it younger, and to use the sweet potato boiled instead of roasted.

"3. Dysentery:—During the months of June and July, 13 cases were brought to my notice, but I am glad to say there were no deaths, all being of the ordinary catarrhal type. Here I have advised the boiling of drinking water, this being the source of infection.

"4. Typhoid Fever:—Eight cases have occurred during the year, five in Boddentown, three in Georgetown. All were of a mild type with the exception of one case in Boddentown which proved fatal. Three of the Boddentown cases I traced to a common water supply. When one appreciates the number of ways typhoid fever may spread and be contracted, it is often a difficult matter to trace the source. It will be as well for me to offer a few words of advice here, at the same time stating some of the ways in which it may be contracted. (1) Water contaminated by proximity to closets; (2) Flies; (3) Typhoid carriers. By (3) is meant a person who has had typhoid fever, and though completely recovered harbours the causative bacillus, sooner or later to be passed into a closet, to become a prey for the housefly. It will therefore be seen how necessary it is to keep the closets well disinfected. A very cheap and effective method is to pour ordinary white lime on the deposits two or three times weekly.

"Diseases of the Respiratory System.

"Six cases of pulmonary tuberculosis or consumption have come under my notice, three of which were far advanced and have since died. There are, however, many other early cases. Here the smoke-fire question is an important one. The irritating nature of the smoke tends to aggravate the persistent cough so often present and is most injurious. Equally so is this the case in the disease known as bronchial asthma, cases of which are quite as numerous as digestive troubles. The true cause of asthma not being definitely decided I may here venture an opinion.

"The cause I believe is geographical and geological. By this I mean the low-lying nature of the Islands and sandy nature of the soil in general—an atmospheric and an irritating cause. It is a common practice all over these Islands for children and others to go around at night with heads uncovered—this is an injurious habit for healthy people, still more so for asthmatical patients—the paroxysms well known to all who suffer from it being more severe at night.

"Special Diseases.

"I was struck on my arrival here with the anaemia or bloodless appearance of children and adults throughout the Island. This I believe has been attributed to the blood-sucking powers of the mosquito. I grant his powers are great in this direction, but it is quite impossible in my

mind to conceive such results. I would ask why these cases are met with both in the winter and the summer? The solution lies in this. The anaemia present here is what used to be called tropical anaemia and now known to be due to two small round worms known as *Ankylostoma duodenale*, and *Necator americanus*, the disease being known as Ankylostomiasis. These worms live and flourish in the soil, especially where it is of a sandy nature. They gain entrance to the body by two routes. (1) Through the skin of the hands and soles of the feet; (2) by the mouth. It is a common practice for young children to eat dirt and thus convey these worms direct to the intestine. The great numbers attacked will be appreciated by noting how many children and adults alike walk bare-footed in these Islands. An effort is now being made and steps taken, on instructions from His Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, to combat this disease.

"Rheumatism is very prevalent, being more of a sub-acute and chronic infection. A few cases of the acute type have, however, presented themselves.

"Malarial fever has occurred to the extent of four cases—two of these in persons who have never been away from the island. The other two cases were in patients infected on the Nicaraguan Coast. The small number of cases are accounted for by the very few mosquitos of the family anophelinae being found. The mosquito commonly seen belongs to the genus *Stegomyia*. This latter genus is concerned in the spread of yellow fever. I would, therefore, strongly recommend, that if at all possible, inhabitants should make their houses mosquito-proof. During the year several vessels and Caymanians visit the Gulf ports, and it is quite probable that any day we may be face to face with yellow fever.

"I should also recommend that the Isolation Hospital be made mosquito-proof in case of emergency, for should a case arrive it will be rather late to net it then, and there is always the possibility of there being no netting to be had in Georgetown.

"Fish-poisoning requires mention.

"Eighteen cases have, to my knowledge, occurred in the past seven months. I have had the opportunity of being present at seven of these. The period of incubation varies from 12 to 48 hours, and the onset in each case was sudden. The symptoms and duration are what one meets with in a typical case of ptomaine poisoning, and the illness is treated by me as such with most satisfactory results. The opinion held locally is that all fish caught inside the reef are poisonous. This I do not agree with, as I have had reliable information to disprove this. Baracoota, goat-fish, and jack, are the fish most commonly believed to be poisonous. In all seven of my cases I obtained a definite history pointing to the baracoota being the source of infection. In conclusion, I may state that I am of opinion that it is probably due to a toxin developed in the liver of the fish and akin to that found in certain forms of shell-fish. This, as far as I can see, can only be avoided by careful discrimination, and those fish which experience has shown to be harmful be discarded.

"There is yet another type of fever found all over the island and known locally as five-day fever. This, in my opinion, is a mild form of relapsing fever transmitted by ticks.

"I visited Cayman Brac twice and Little Cayman once during the year and find the existing conditions to be similar to those of Grand Cayman.

"In conclusion, I may say that, on the whole, the health of the islands is good."

CLIMATE.

The Cayman Islands are among the healthiest places in the world. There are no cases of illness attributable to climatic conditions. The

weather is warm for the greater part of the year. The prevailing breeze is from the south-east from April until October, when the cool season begins with a change of wind to the north and north-west in the early part of November.

The following table shows the average temperature :—

			Morning.	Mid-day.	Evening.
Hot months	..	..	83°	89°	86°
Cool months	(Nov. to				
March)	..	..	71°	80°	74°

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

A N N U A L.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
846	Seychelles	1914
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915
874	British Guiana	"
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914-1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	"
878	Nigeria	1914

M I S C E L L A N E O U S.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

to His Majesty
be obtained for

19

19° 20'

Carriage Road... ~~~~~

Bridle Road.....

Lighthouse

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1913.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

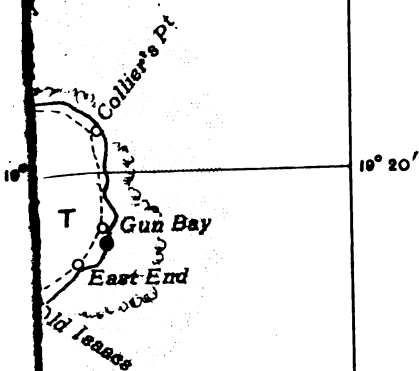
A N N U A L.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
846	Seychelles.. .. .	1914
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915
874	British Guiana	"
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914-1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	"
878	Nigeria	1914

M I S C E L L A N E O U S.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

CAYMAN



Carriage Road.....

Bridle Road.....

Lighthouse.....●

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1913.

L O N D O N :
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK, S.E.

1916.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

MAY 12 1915

No. 880.

ST. LUCIA.

REPORT FOR 1914—15.

(For Report for 1913—14 see No. 836.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

April, 1916.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America, and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd.8172-6.] Price 1d.

Dep. U. & C.
L. & C.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I. FINANCIAL	4
II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	5
III. LEGISLATION	7
IV. EDUCATION	7
V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	8
VI. JUDICIAL STATISTICS	9
VII. VITAL STATISTICS	10
VIII. POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES	11
IX. GENERAL REMARKS	12

A SKETCH MAP will be found in the previous Report, No. 836.
[Cd. 7622-27].

No. 880.

ST. LUCIA.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 836.)

THE ADMINISTRATOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Government House,

Saint Lucia,

3rd February, 1916.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1914-15, together with my Report thereon.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

GIDEON MURRAY,

Administrator.

His Excellency

Sir G. B. Haddon-Smith, K.C.M.G.,

&c. &c., &c.,

Grenada.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1914-15.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year was estimated at £66,320. The amount actually received was £57,795, £8,525 below the Estimates. The average revenue for the previous five years was £67,313.

There was a considerable loss under Customs and Port and Harbour dues owing to less trade and shipping during the year consequent upon the war.

Under Head 4, the receipts from Post Office, Head 5, showed very appreciably the effects of the war, chiefly due to fall in sales to stamp dealers.

The revenue derived from licences for the sale of liquor was £1,581 10s. 0d., and the number of such licences issued during the year was 202.

The actual expenditure for the year was £3,001 less than the estimate, which totalled £71,353, savings having been effected under nearly every head.

The accounts for the year closed with a deficit of £11,688, resulting in the reduction of the Colony's surplus funds at 31st March, 1915, to £13,880, as compared with £25,568 with which the year opened.

Public Debt.

At the 31st March, 1915, the public debt stood at £138,030, having been reduced during the year by £2,100, and at the same date the total of the sinking funds for the redemption of the debt amounted to £23,681.

The currency consists of British and American gold, notes of the local branch of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and copper coins. Accounts are kept in sterling by the Government, and in dollars and cents by the bank and most of the mercantile firms, the dollar being equal to 4s. 2d.

Municipalities.

The management of the affairs of Castries, the chief town in the Colony, is vested in a Board elected by the ratepayers. The small towns and villages of the Colony are controlled by wardens appointed by the Governor in Council. In the case, however, of the towns of Soufrière and Vieux Fort and the village of Dennery, "Improvement Committees" have been appointed to advise generally on matters relating to those places.

The revenue of the towns and villages consists, principally, in Castries, of receipts from the house tax, water rates, and dues, market dues, and licences, and in the other towns and villages of receipts from house tax, supplemented in the case of Soufrière by water rates and dues.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of the imports in the calendar year 1914 amounted to £306,152, and was £77,747 more than in the previous year. Of the increase coal accounted for £20,391.

The coal imported was 120,288 tons, valued at £146,860, as compared with 114,350 tons, valued at £126,469, in 1913.

Exports.

The declared value of the exports was £241,422, of which £99,658 was the value of produce of the Colony, and £141,764 of other places, including £128,639 the value of bunker coal, and £3,380 the value of goods exported as ships' stores.

The exports of island produce in the past ten years show a gradual increase from £88,600 in 1904 to £117,700 in 1913, the exports in the latter year being the highest recorded except those of 1909, when they were valued at £124,901, which was due to the abnormally high price obtained for cocoa in that year. It may also be noted that, whilst the export of island produce has thus increased, the percentage of sugar and cocoa exports has gradually fallen from 93·3 to 87·1, indicating an extension in agriculture in other directions than those of the two principal products.

Coaling Trade.

As will be seen from the subjoined figures, the coaling trade did not do as well in 1914 as in the previous two years, and this was due to a falling off, caused by the war, in the number of steamers that called for coal:—

					Tons.	£
1912	..	..	..	..	134,783	166,312
1913	..	..	..	..	117,532	141,038
1914	..	..	..	..	95,893	128,639

Manufactures.

The sugar factories at Cul-de-Sac, Roseau, Vieux Fort, and Dennery were all working during the year.

The erection of the Government lime-juice factory, to which reference was made in the last report, was completed and opened in the year under review.

The business of the factory is conducted on a co-operative basis. In determining the profits there is deducted from the amounts realized for the sale of produce the amounts paid for the purchase of limes and lime-juice together with all expenses of working the factory and disposing of the produce, and, in addition, a sum equivalent to 10 per cent. of the amount paid for the purchase of limes and lime-juice, the remainder being regarded as gross profits to be divided, one-third being paid to the Government and two-thirds to the vendors of fruit and juice, this latter to be distributed to the vendors by way of bonus, in proportion to the amounts paid to them for limes or lime-juice.

The sum equivalent to 10 per cent. of the value of the limes and lime-juice purchased, together with the sum representing one-third of the profits referred to in the foregoing paragraph, to be paid to the Government by way of interest and sinking fund in respect to the sum expended in erecting the factory.

The price paid for limes and lime-juice is based on a scale of prices having a relation to the value of concentrated juice, and insuring a safety margin of profit to the factory. The seller of fruit realises his full value when he gets his bonus derived from the share of profits.

Agricultural Industries.

Lime cultivation is making rapid progress and the value of the lime-juice exported during the year 1914 (£5,572) exceeded that for the preceding year by £3,082.

The value of the export (the only available indication of the production) of cocoa in 1914 was £38,846, as compared with £36,888, although the amount exported (7,971 bags) was less by 198 bags than the export in the preceding year. The value of the sugar exported in 1914 was £44,483, as compared with £65,661 in 1913.

A small quantity of cotton was again produced in the Choiseul district. The export figures were 5,100 pounds of lint, valued at £255, and 128 cwt. of seed, valued at £37.

The planting of coconuts is increasing. With careful selection it is possible to get local nuts of excellent quality for planting, and the demand has been so considerable that the export for the year shows but a slight increase. The quantity shipped was 53,638 nuts, valued at £294; and 142 cwt. of copra, valued at £176, also figures among the exports.

The year was a bad one for honey, the exportation being valued at only £270, which is £226 less than in the previous year.

The Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture visited the Colony in September, and spent from September 5th to 8th at the new Experiment Station, Reunion. During this period he visited the Land Settlement and the outlying portions of the estate. Official visits were also made to the Botanic Gardens, Castries, and the Government Lime Factory.

Land Grants.

Thirty-six Crown grants were issued during the year, the acreage disposed of being 290 acres. The price of Crown land is at the rate of £1 per acre up to 50 acres, and 10s. per acre for each acre above that number, and is payable one-fifth on application and the balance in four annual instalments.

The applications for the purchase of land numbered 51, in respect of 394 acres.

Shipping.

Shipping forms a large item in the welfare of the Colony, due to Port Castries being a coaling station, the facilities afforded for bunkering and quick despatch being unequalled by any other port in the West Indies, or, for the matter of that, in many other ports in the British Empire.

During the year 1914 the tonnage of British steamers entered was 1,389,539, and of foreign steamers 197,725. The corresponding figures for the preceding year are 1,549,751 and 214,821 respectively.

Castries is also a port of registry, and at the close of 1914 had 14 vessels on the register, with a tonnage of 268. All these are small sailing vessels locally owned.

Public Works.

The usual work on the ordinary upkeep and maintenance of public roads and buildings was carried on during the year, but no extraordinary work of any magnitude was undertaken. The construction of a bridge over the Choiseul River was completed; also the erection of a new powerful light at Vigie.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The legislation of 1914 comprised six Ordinances, none of unusual importance.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The following figures are furnished by the Inspector of Schools in his annual report for 1914 :—

	1913.	1914.
Number of Schools	52	52
Number on Rolls	7,434	7,493
Average Attendance	5,121	5,319
Number examined	6,930	6,439
Government Grant-in-Aid	£3,979	£3,985

Of the 52 schools 45 are Roman Catholic, 4 Anglican, 2 Wesleyan, and 1 East Indian Mission.

The grant-in-aid of primary education was, in 1914, the same as in previous years, £4,000. Of this sum the amount expended was (a) on teachers' salaries, £3,917; (b) on the salary of the Education Officer, £54; (c) special building grant, £15; making a total of £3,986.

A new Education Ordinance, the Primary Education Ordinance, 1913, was passed on the 15th July, 1913. It repeals the Education Ordinance of 1889 and the Elementary Instruction Ordinance of 1902, and reproduces most of the provisions of the former Ordinance. It is hoped that it will be more easy, under the provisions of the new law, to diminish truancy and the loitering in the streets of children of school age during school hours. During 1914, 140 cases were brought before the magistrates of the 1st and 2nd Districts. Three parents were fined, and the rest warned.

Of the two schools of secondary education, St. Mary's College, for boys, receiving a Government grant of £400 per annum, had an average attendance of 55; St. Joseph's Convent School, for girls, receiving a Government grant of £150, had an average attendance of 102.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals, &c.

The Victoria Hospital at Castries is the one general hospital for the Colony. It is a fine stone building and well situated, and has been considerably improved of recent years. A trained nurse-matron from England assumed her duties in January, 1914. Besides her general duties, she systematically trains the nurses and is endeavouring to give them a sound practical knowledge of their duties. The daily average number of patients was 76; the expenditure on the institution amounted to £2,017.

The Lunatic Asylum, situated at La Toc, near the entrance to the harbour, is a good stone building capable of accommodating 80 to 100 patients. It is managed by the House Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital, who has under him a European steward. The daily average number of patients was 70·8. The expenditure amounted to £1,164.

Small buildings are provided in the out-districts at Soufrière, Dennery, and Vieux Fort, which are used as casualty hospitals for accident and emergency cases.

The General Poor Asylum is at Malgretoute, on the sea beach within a mile of the town of Soufrière, and the daily average number of inmates during the year was 68·55. The expenditure amounted to £887. This provision for paupers is supplemented by an out-door relief system under the supervision of the Police Department.

The Yaws Hospital is in the vicinity of the Poor Asylum. There was a daily average number of patients of 47·03, and the expenditure for upkeep amounted to £554. The voluntary influx of patients for treatment with the drug "Salvarsan" continued unabated during the year, and 337 cases were treated. The number would have been much greater but for a shortage in the supply of the drug. The Medical Officer in charge, Dr. A. F. Hughes, reports that up to the time of his report he had treated 745 cases, and that out of this number there had only been 32 cases of recurrence of the disease. In this latter connexion, the medical officer refers to the difficulty of his distinguishing between *bona fide* recurrences and cases of re-infection.

There are visiting stations at various points where medical officers attend regularly on fixed days for the treatment of out-door cases of sickness.

There is a public library in Castries towards which the Government gives a grant of £125 per annum, and which receives from the municipality a contribution of £25 per annum. In Soufrière there is also a small library to which the Government grants £20 a year, and a modest institution of the same kind in Dennery also receives Government aid to the extent of £5 a year. At the date of writing a small library has been opened in Vieux Fort, supplemented by a grant of £5 from town funds.

Savings Bank.

The amount to the credit of depositors at the close of the year continues to grow; the amount remaining on deposit on 31st December being £22,461 as compared with £20,936 in 1913.

The investments in England on account of the bank stood at the 31st March, 1915, at £19,867.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.—In addition to the ordinary police work, the police force carries out a considerable number of duties in connection with the details of administration, such as the enforcement of sanitary regulations, distribution of poor and medical relief, registration of births and deaths, and in certain districts is in charge of the post offices and telephone exchanges. The total expenditure on the department was £4,464.

Prisons.—The number of persons committed to the Royal gaol in 1914 was 416. The daily average number in confinement was 34·43 as compared with 43·04 in 1913.

The health of the institution was highly satisfactory, the average number on the sick list being only ·5, the lowest on record.

The expenditure on the establishment was £1,063, £81 less than in the preceding year. The total estimated value of prison labour is stated to be £332.

Criminal Statistics.—The statistics for the year present no prominent feature calling for special comment.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—The Registrar of Civil Status estimates the population at the 31st March, 1915, to have been 51,590—23,768 males, and 27,822 females; the population at the same date in 1914 was estimated at 50,809. The figures, however, do not take account of either emigration or immigration, and are based solely on the natural increase, the census figure of 1911 being taken as the starting point.

The birth-rate of the Colony (excluding still-births) was 33·9 per thousand of the population, being 34·5 in 1913–14. The births numbered 1,833. The death-rate was 18·7 per thousand, while in the previous year it stood at 17·4 per thousand. The number of deaths was 1,052. There was no death from snake-bite.

Marriages numbered 225, a decrease of 52 as compared with 1913–14.

Public Health and Sanitation.—All the medical officers report the health conditions of the year to have been favourable, and there is, generally, nothing in the reports calling for special mention.

The campaign against rats was systematically carried out during nine months of the year, 2,351 rodents being captured. A staff of labourers, under a special sanitary officer, was employed on this work, and their services were also utilized for cleaning streams and drains and on other sanitary measures around Port Castries; some useful anti-mosquito work was also accomplished. The use of “millions” fish was continued in practicable places, but, as a good part of the year was unusually dry, their usefulness was somewhat diminished. In the out-districts, yards and premises were frequently inspected by the police, and the Chief of Police states that there were 29 convictions for offences against the sanitary regulations.

During the year the hookworm campaign, inaugurated at the expense of the International Health Commission, commenced its work under the direction of Dr. Stanley Branch, a local District Medical Officer seconded for this purpose. The Colony is much indebted to the Commission for providing the necessary means to combat this devastating disease so deleterious to the health and efficiency of the labouring classes. Side by side with this campaign, the Government is considering measures for the improvement of the sanitary conditions in the Colony generally.

Climate.—The average annual rainfall for the Island, recorded at 24 stations, was 64·88 inches; it was 83·75 inches in 1913. The highest recorded rainfall was at Uplyme, with 120·15 inches, and the

lowest was at Beauséjour estate, in the Vieux Fort district, with 27·78 inches. Abnormally dry weather was experienced throughout the Island in the month of December.

The mean monthly temperature recorded in the shade at the Botanic Station in Castries was 79·2 F. The maximum shade temperature of 91·0 F. was recorded on May 3rd, and the minimum of 63 F. on March 1st.

The mean monthly corrected readings of the barometer ranged between 29·378 inches in December and 30·087 in April. The mean annual pressure was 30·026 inches.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The fortnightly intercolonial mail service performed under contract by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's steamers was regularly carried out during the year, and the steamers of the *Compagnie Générale Transatlantique* (which touch at Castries going and coming *en route* between French Guiana and the northern French Colonies), also paid their usual visits, as did the vessels of the Quebec line (which call on their passage to and from New York), and of the Danish East Asiatic Company. The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's service, under contract with the Canadian Government, between Canada and the West Indies commenced in November, 1913, and was regularly carried out from that date. This service provides for a monthly call at St. Lucia of the steamers going to and coming from Canada.

The total revenue of the Post Office was £1,136, and the total expenditure £2,088.

The principal postal statistics for the last two years are as follows :—

	1913-14.	1914-15.
Letters and Postcards :—		
Sent	109,986	91,062
Received	100,627	93,954
Inland : Sent and Received ..	86,392	82,766
Parcels despatched	609	430
,, received	3,975	2,637

There is regular and daily postal communication under local contract between Castries and the leeward coast towns and villages, the service being carried out by the Royal Mail Company's coasting steamer. On the windward side of the Island communication by post is overland and is made twice a week only.

All towns and villages in the Island are connected by telephone with Castries.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

Sir G. B. Haddon Smith, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Bahamas, succeeded Sir J. Hayes Sadler as Governor of the Windward Islands and arrived in Grenada on the 30th December, 1914.

The Honourable Gideon Murray, Administrator of St. Vincent, was appointed Administrator of St. Lucia on the 10th December, 1914, but did not assume the administration of the Colony until the 20th May, 1915.

Owing to the war there was a general decrease of business in the shops and stores, which caused a falling off in the revenue from Customs duty. Owing to fewer merchant steamers calling here, there has likewise been a decrease in the coaling trade and in the revenue of the port. The price of peasants' cocoa was extremely low in October and November 1914, but it has since risen to a normal rate. It is hoped that the high price of sugar and the fair price of cocoa and lime-juice will have some effect in staying the drop in Customs duties.

Like other parts of the British Empire, St. Lucia has evinced her loyalty to the cause for which we are fighting by considerable money grants, both Government and private, to the objects of the war. In addition 40 of her male population engaged themselves as stokers on H.M.S. "Good Hope," as she passed through St. Lucia on her way to South America, and they, together with the many other gallant fellows, surrendered their lives for their country in the brave encounter with the German squadron, in which the "Good Hope" met her unfortunate fate.

GIDEON MURRAY,
Administrator.

Government House,
St. Lucia,
31st December, 1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
848	Fiji	1914
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	1914
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	1914
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	1914
859	Gold Coast	1914-1915
860	Jamaica	1914
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	1914
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1914
864	Ashanti	1914
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	1914
867	Somaliland	1914
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1914
871	Barbados	1914
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915
874	British Guiana	1914
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914-1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	1914
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914-1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE.
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

1916.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 881.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1914-15.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 840.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
April, 1916.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LIMITED, THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd. 8172-7]. Price 3½d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I. FINANCIAL	4
(a) General Revenue and Expenditure	4
(b) Currency	5
II. TRADE AND SHIPPING	5
(a) Trade	5
(b) Shipping	10
III. INDUSTRIES AND MINES	10
(a) Industries	10
(b) Mines and Minerals	11
IV. AGRICULTURE AND STOCK RAISING	11
(a) Crops	11
(b) Live Stock	13
(c) Experimental Farms	13
(d) Diseases of Animals	14
V. FORESTS	16
VI. COMMUNICATIONS	17
(a) Railways	17
(b) Roads	19
(c) Post and Telegraphs	19
VII. JUDICIAL, LEGAL, POLICE, AND PRISONS	21
(a) Judicial	21
(b) Legal	22
(c) Police	23
(d) Prisons	23
VIII. CLIMATE AND HEALTH	23
(a) Public Health	23
(b) Sanitation	25
IX. NATIVE ADMINISTRATION	26
(a) Highlands and Nyanza Basin Provinces	26
(b) Coast Provinces	28
(c) Northern Frontier District	29
X. EDUCATION	29
XI. LAND AND SURVEYS	30
(a) Lands	30
(b) Surveys	31
XII. GAME	32
XIII. PUBLIC WORKS	33
MAP.	

No. 881.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 840.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Nairobi,

British East Africa,

3rd February, 1916.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Annual Report on the East Africa Protectorate for the year 1914-15.

I have, &c.,

C. C. BOWRING,

Governor's Deputy.

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE FOR 1914-15.

I. FINANCIAL.

(A) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Had it not been for the war there was every reason to believe that the revenue for 1914-15 would have approximated closely to the estimate. This remark holds good also in regard to expenditure as a whole, with the exception of military expenditure, on which an excess was unavoidable on account of the Marehan operations in Jubaland.

The final results were a deficit of £387,695 on revenue and a saving of £233,221 on expenditure, while the surplus balance on 31st March, 1915 amounted to £149,507.

Revenue.

The total revenue for the year amounted to £984,756, showing a deficit of £387,695 on the estimate and a decrease of £139,042 compared with 1913-14. It was, however, £32,231 in excess of the revenue for 1912-13.

The following table shows the revenue for the last five years:—

Year.			£	Percentage	
				Increase.	Decrease.
1910-11	..	..	609,586	21·0	
1911-12	..	..	729,078	19·6	
1912-13	..	..	952,525	30·6	
1913-14	..	..	1,123,798	17·9	
1914-15	..	..	984,756	—	12·3

The gross revenue from Customs import duties was £134,263, of which £60,000 was transferred to the Uganda Protectorate, leaving £74,263, or a deficit of £60,737 on the estimate.

Expenditure.

The original estimate of expenditure	£
sanctioned for the year was ..	1,384,951
And the actual expenditure was ..	1,151,730
Showing an apparent saving of ..	<u>233,221</u>

The savings on the estimated expenditure of the year were however considerably greater, for in addition the following items were authorised :—

	£	£
(1) Unexpended balances on uncompleted works from 1913-14 ..	21,992	
(2) Public Works Extraordinary—New Roads and Bridges, (Special) ..	10,357	
(3) Public Works Extraordinary—Acquisition of land, Mombasa ..	3,664	36,013
		<hr/>
Showing a saving of		269,234
From which must be deducted the savings on the Busoga Railway, which belongs to the Uganda Protectorate		20,609
		<hr/>
Showing a net saving on the authorised expenditure of		£248,625
		<hr/>

Financial Position on 31st March, 1915.

The net excess of Assets over Liabilities on 31st March 1915 was £149,507.

This figure is arrived at as follows :—

Net assets as on 1st April, 1914	£316,481
Expenditure 1914-15.. .. £1,151,730	
Revenue 1914-15 984,756	
Excess expenditure over revenue	166,974
	<hr/>
Balance	£149,507
	<hr/>

(B) CURRENCY.

The total value of Currency Notes in circulation on 31st March, 1915, was Rs.68,66,000, as compared with Rs.43,39,000 on 31st March, 1914. This large increase was chiefly caused by the requirements of the military, the Indian Expeditionary Force having imported large quantities of silver which was paid to the Currency Board in exchange for notes.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

(A) TRADE.

The Customs receipts during the financial year amounted to £160,640, and the total refunds to £13,287.

The net revenue originally estimated at £205,000, therefore amounted to £147,353 showing a decrease of £48,844 or 25 per cent. as compared with the previous year.

Imports.

The total value of commercial imports receded from £2,147,937 to £1,469,210 during the year under report thus showing a decrease of £678,727 or 31 per cent. as compared with 1913-14 and £339,133, or 19 per cent. below the imports in 1912-13.

Cotton textiles continue to constitute the most important and largest class of imports. They were valued at £269,244 with a yardage of 17,479,985 and represent 19 per cent. of the total merchandise. The decrease in value as compared with the previous year is one of £301,354 or 53 per cent., whereas the fall in quantity is 54 per cent.

Since the outbreak of war the interior of German East Africa has been closed to trade with British East Africa and hence the supplies that used to be re-exported by the Uganda Railway and Lake steamers remained in this country. During 1913-14 re-exports of cotton goods to German East Africa and other places were valued at £135,727, whereas during the year under review they amounted to £64,966 only. The reason for the fall in imports of cotton goods may be found in the fact that the local markets were well supplied before the outbreak of war, the demand during the first four months of the year being, as usual, not as heavy as during the last months of the year.

The imports of other varieties of cotton goods such as bleached, dyed, and printed manufactures amounted to £107,259, a decrease of £111,603, or 51 per cent. Of these imports, English manufactures represent two thirds of the supply in the market, whereas Holland, the next on the list, secured only 14 per cent.

The class next in importance is grain, which forms 11 per cent. of the total trade imports. The quantity advanced from 241,485 cwts. valued at £130,092 to 260,248 cwts. valued at £147,452.

Rice takes the first place in quantity as well as in value and represents 63 per cent. of the total quantity and 58 per cent. of the total value of grain. The increase in quantity is one of 16 per cent., and in value 14 per cent.

The second place is occupied by the imports of flour and wheat-meal, which show a trifling decrease of 253c wts. in quantity accompanied by a rise of 17 per cent. in value. In the other varieties of grain there is not much fluctuation.

About 96 per cent. of the total grain is imported from India.

The third largest item in the list of imports is that of provisions, which show an increase of £12,123, or 9 per cent. over the previous year.

Cement to the extent of 93,093 cwts., with a value of £16,112, was imported during the year. a decrease of 523 cwts. in quantity combined with an increase of £395 in value. Over 80 per cent. of the cement was of British origin.

In alcoholic liquors there is an increase of 26,656 gallons, or 17 per cent. in quantity and £7,122, or 12 per cent. in value. There are no local distilleries and the supply is therefore limited to importations.

Imports of ale and beer rose from 52,015 gallons, value £8,125, to 82,808 gallons, value £13,568,

German beer, which ceased to be exported on the outbreak of war, amounted to 34,166 gallons, as compared with 35,683 gallons during the year ended 31st March, 1914, while South African beer, which was a negligible quantity in the previous years, has assumed the second place in order of value during the year.

The increase in the quantity of soap is 6,370 cwts., or 63 per cent., and £8,797, or 62 per cent. in value.

Of the total, 14,482 cwts., valued at £20,676, was received from the United Kingdom.

In this line of business British manufacturers are to the fore and their goods are replacing German manufactures. Much credit for this change is due to the energy and enterprise of British firms who have for some time been opening up local establishments.

Imports of coal amounted to 10,200 tons, of a value of £21,450, showing a decrease of 2,379 tons, or 19 per cent. in quantity, but an increase of £1,929, or 10 per cent. in value, as compared with the previous year. This means a rise of 36 per cent. in specific value.

With the exception of 12 tons from the United Kingdom, the whole quantity came from South Africa, and the average price worked out at 42s., as against 28s. 4d. during the previous year.

Government coal is not included in the foregoing figures.

The United Kingdom was again the principal supplier of trade goods to the East Africa Protectorate, and it is gratifying to see the combined increase from the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and India from 62·5 per cent. to 69·7 per cent., and the consequent fall in foreign trade from 37·5 per cent. to 30·3 per cent.

Imports of Government stores, railway and telegraph materials, are not included in the above percentage, which is confined to trade importations, but they form a considerable part of the total imports.

The following figures show the share of the United Kingdom in the total import trade, including Government stores, railway and telegraph materials :—

Year ended 31st March.

1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
43·4	55·1	53·1	57·7	57·3

The decrease of £678,727, or 31 per cent., in the imports of trade merchandise, is almost entirely due to the war, which has dislocated trade and industry in this country.

Transit Goods.

Imports from foreign ports intended for consumption in the hinterlands of German East Africa and the Congo pass through Kilindini, which is linked up with these two countries by railway and steamers on Lake Victoria Nyanza.

Import duty is not leviable on goods in transit, in accordance with the terms of the Brussels Act, 1889-90, but to cover administration expenses a fee of 4d. per package is charged. The revenue from Transit Fees during the year was £1,100.

The value of transit trade declined from £202,723 to £92,044, showing a decrease of 55 per cent. This was mainly brought about by the stoppage of trade between German ports on Lake Victoria Nyanza and Kilindini immediately war broke out. The trade during the first four months of the year amounted to £74,028, and the balance of £18,016 represents trade with the Congo alone during the last eight months.

Exports.

The comparative values for the past two years are as follows :—

Produce of	1914-15.	1913-14.	+ Increase. — Decrease.
	£	£	Per cent.
British East Africa	314,804	443,624	— 29
Uganda	506,878	564,244	— 10
German East Africa	150,941	448,103	— 66
Congo Free State	31,986	26,127	+ 22
Soudan	187	778	— 76
	1,004,796	1,482,876	—

The decrease in the total value as compared with the previous year is one of £478,080, or 32 per cent., due to passing events rather than to any inherent weakness in the progress of the countries.

As compared with the previous year, domestic exports show a decrease of £128,820, or 29 per cent.

The most considerable decreases are those of £79,858 under grain and oil seeds and £41,082 under hides and skins. The two items amount to £120,940, and form 94 per cent. of the total decrease.

Hides and skins continue to take the first place in the list of exports.

The figures for the year are £106,392, being £41,082, or 28 per cent., less than last year, but £18,719 more than in 1912-13.

The closing of enemy markets had the effect of diverting hides and skins to other markets, and thus, in spite of large demands for leather by the Allies, there was an abundance of hides which would have in the ordinary course gone to what are now enemy ports. Prices dropped accordingly, but a change rapidly came and hides have recently been freely purchased and are now being shipped principally to Italy.

Hides to the value of £52,536 were shipped to the United Kingdom, £15,487 went to Italy, and £13,772 to France.

Of skins, 81 per cent. went to the United States.

The second largest item of export is represented by fibre, valued at £40,077, which forms 12 per cent. of the domestic exports. In 1913-14 the export was valued at £16,608.

The exports of fibres are classified under two heads of "Sisal" and "Other sorts," representing 33,032 cwts. (£35,537) and 7,058 (£4,540), respectively.

The fibre industry was initiated by European settlers, who have most successfully met preliminary difficulties, and it has at last been brought to a stage which leaves no doubt as to its future prominence in our exports.

The quantity shipped to the United Kingdom was 36,275 cwts., valued at £36,535.

Of the two varieties sisal formed the bulk of the exports, representing 33,032 cwts., valued at £35,537, and showing an advance of 11,565 cwts. for a value of £23,012. Sisal fibre is a hard cordage fibre, and consignments from the Protectorate placed on the market realised maximum prices, the length, colour, and strength of the fibre being well reported on.

The class next in importance after "fibre" is the group of grain and oil seeds, exports of which amounted to 104,133 cwts., valued at £38,572, as compared with 321,781 cwts., valued at £118,430 in 1913-14.

Shipments of copra declined from 31,725 cwts., valued at £35,587, to 27,722 cwts., valued at £24,371.

The decrease in the exportable surplus of copra may be attributed to the fact that certain parts of the country were the subject of military operations, thus preventing movements of natives with their produce.

Coffee planting is one of British East Africa's most promising industries, and if an adequate supply of labour is forthcoming it is likely to take a prominent place in our exports in future.

The rate of progress since 1909-10 can be seen from the following figures:—

Year ended 31st March.	Quantity. Cwts.	Value. £
1910	630	1,068
1911	1,220	2,995
1912	2,089	5,765
1913	3,032	11,071
1914	5,501	18,502
1915	7,784	21,738

Ninety-five per cent. of the exports during the year were consigned to the United Kingdom. The coffee produced in British East Africa is excellent and commands a very high price.

Trade in ivory has decreased to £1,887, as against £8,764 in the previous year, and is dying out slowly.

The steady fall since 1910 has been brought about by the stringent enforcement of the Game Regulations. Ivory obtained in contravention of these regulations is confiscated and sold by public auction periodically, the ivory then being exported.

Of the total output last year £675 was consigned to the United States, £619 to the United Kingdom, and £255 to Zanzibar.

The decrease of 32 per cent. in the total exports as compared with the previous year is due more to the war than to any other cause. Uganda exports head the list and form 50 per cent. of the total, while East Africa represents 31 per cent. and the Congo exports contributed 3 per cent.

(B) SHIPPING.

Mombasa has been served by four lines of direct mail steamers from Europe this year—the Union Castle, British India, Messageries Maritimes, and the Maritima Italiana.

The above steamers have called on the average about once a month and have carried cargo and passengers, but owing to the war the services were irregular.

In addition to the above lines the Clan, Ellerman, Harrison, and Hall Lines joint service steamers have also called here once a month direct from Europe with cargo only.

A branch of the British India Company's steamers maintained a service twice a month with Bombay.

The coast traffic has been carried out by the steamers belonging to Messrs. Cowasji Dinshaw & Brothers. The total steam tonnage entered in the ports of the Protectorate amounts to 1,119,972 tons, represented by 432 steamers, a decrease of 361 vessels and 614,592 tons compared with last year. This is due to the war.

The total tonnage of sailing vessels entering the ports of the Protectorate amounts to 51,730 tons, represented by 2,923 vessels, a decrease 4,787 tons, but an increase of 102 vessels compared with last year. This shows that few seagoing vessels have called owing to the war.

III.—INDUSTRIES AND MINES.

(A) INDUSTRIES.

Until the outbreak of hostilities the general prosperity of the Protectorate was well maintained. For some few months afterwards there was a very natural set-back, but conditions are gradually improving and no anxiety is felt as to the future as soon as normal conditions are restored.

At the beginning of the year the firms of architects were very busy and numerous substantial buildings had been commenced.

There are several dairy farms near Nairobi and in the Naivasha and Lumbwa districts, but the supply is barely equal to the demand.

There is an increasing demand for native timber, and the saw-milling firms should have a prosperous future before them.

Town and farm properties have not decreased in value.

Sisal has given most encouraging results, and promises to take a high place in the list of exports in future years.

The area under coffee has increased considerably and excellent prices are obtained in the home markets.

There are many large plantations of wattle, but up to the present the results have been somewhat disappointing.

The bacon industry has developed, and, as pigs can be reared at very little expense, those farmers who started with good foundation stock can show excellent herds.

(B) MINES AND MINERALS.

Up to the outbreak of war considerable activity in mica was exhibited in Mweru and Machakos districts. When war commenced these undertakings, however, closed down, and suspension of work certificates have been granted by the Mines Office, as a number of the European employers were on active service.

The number of claims pegged out in 1914-15 was nine. Area 362 acres.

One sole prospecting licence was granted over 5 square miles.

All the above are in the Ukamba and Kenya Provinces.

No mineral leases were granted.

IV.—AGRICULTURE AND STOCK RAISING.

(A) CROPS.

Coffee.—This remains the principal economic crop of the highlands of British East Africa, and the area under cultivation has probably been doubled during the past season.

The berry produced is of exceptional quality, and the coffee readily commands high prices on the London market.

The leaf disease, *Hemeleia vastatrix*, has not proved the serious matter at one time feared, the experience of the last year showing that, if proper means of control are used, the pest can be kept within moderate bounds.

A coffee curing factory has been erected in the neighbourhood of Nairobi and should prove a boon to planters.

Fibres.—The cultivation of sisal and flax has increased very largely during the year. The former is now a “proved” industry, while the latter is rapidly becoming so. Recent reports from the home brokers and flax experts declare the flax sent from this country to be of excellent quality.

In the Lumbwa, Londiani, Nakuru, and Uasin Gishu districts flax growing is likely to become an important branch of farming.

A factory for handling the fibre has been built at Lumbwa, and others would have been erected had not the present disturbed state of affairs occurred.

Maize, Beans, Potatoes, and Sim Sim.—The successful cultivation of these crops continues throughout the farming areas of the Protectorate. There is a sound local market for all these products and in normal times the export value warrants the cultivation of large areas.

Cotton.—The drop in the price has seriously affected cotton planting by natives in the Nyanza Province where the industry promised so well. It is greatly to be hoped that future prices will induce a revival of the industry.

Wattle.—During the past year arrangements were made by the wattle growers of the highlands to form a syndicate to erect a factory for the extraction of tannin from the bark, but owing to the war no further progress has been made in the matter.

Coconuts.—Coconut planting in the coast belt is progressing. Every effort is being made to encourage the natives to improve their methods of cultivation, and to impress on them the necessity of destroying the beetle *Oryctes monoceros*, which does so much damage to the trees.

The native practice of tapping the trees for “tembo” is strongly discouraged.

Legislation for the protection of the industry has been framed as a result of the report of the Coconut Commission, 1914.

Rubber.—The rubber industry may be said to be dormant. This unsatisfactory state of affairs may be directly attributed to the low price offered for Ceara rubber and indirectly to the brighter prospects in the coast districts of such crops as sisal and coconuts.

Tobacco.—This crop is still in the experimental stage, but there are indications that in certain districts it will be a success.

Fruit Culture.—Many planters are turning their attention to the cultivation of citrus trees. Limes and lemons are the trees chiefly planted with the subsequent object of the local manufacture of the concentrated juice and citrate of lime for export.

The demand for budded or grafted stock has been so great that the nursery at Kabete Experimental Farm was unable to cope with it. Steps have, however, now been taken to increase the supply of these stocks in the near future.

This is one of the most promising industries that has been started in the Protectorate.

(B) LIVE STOCK.

Stock breeding and the grading up of native cattle and sheep have been pursued with continued success in the recognised stock districts of the Protectorate.

The policy of importing Government stock of good quality and disposing of the progeny by auction sale to local breeders who would otherwise experience considerable difficulty in obtaining high class animals has again been greatly appreciated, as is shown by the continued support given by local stock breeders to the annual Government sale at Naivasha. This sale was held in March, 1915, a large number of those interested attended, bidding was brisk, and good prices were realised.

Cattle.—The department has recently imported from South Africa 20 Friesland heifers, 8 Friesland bulls, and 14 head of shorthorns. The introduction of fresh blood of these two breeds, which have been proved admirably suited to local conditions at Naivasha, should have most satisfactory results.

The ravages of east coast fever among the stock of the country have not been so great as in former years. The systematic dipping now practised on many farms accounts for the improvement.

During the year there were 12 outbreaks of rinderpest on European farms. However, a large head of stock has been doubly inoculated and great hopes are entertained that the disease will be held in check in the future.

Pigs.—Swine husbandry has received marked attention during the period under review. The demand on the Kabete Experimental Farm for young stock for breeding purposes has been unprecedentedly large and greatly exceeded the possible supply.

Swine fever from all reports has not caused so much havoc as in previous seasons. Careful fencing has probably caused this decrease.

(C) EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

Kabete.—The following stock were despatched from the farm during the year :—

24 Grade Cattle,
64 Cows,
22 Oxen,
4 Mules,
70 Pigs,

or a total of 184.

The stock on hand at the end of the year included 305 cattle, 82 sheep, and 100 pigs.

From some plots planted with arrowroot in May, 1913, a very fine sample was obtained, being at the rate of 450 lbs. per acre.

The crops in general suffered from the drought, the rainfall being almost 20 inches below the average of the two previous years.

Kibos.—The area occupied by experimental crops showed a slight increase over that of previous years.

The local conditions have proved suitable to chillies, and the cultivation of this product is becoming popular among the natives.

The establishment of a tropical fruit orchard progressed. The trees include bananas, coconuts, guavas, mangoes, oranges, papaws, pine-apples, sugar-apples, mulberry, and fig.

There has been a marked increase in the number of applications for, and inquiries about, economic and ornamental plants and seeds.

Naivasha.—Cattle did exceedingly well; out of 290 head of pure and graded stock only three died.

The pure-bred shorthorns have done well, as have the Friesland cattle. The increase in Ayrshires has been large.

Grade cattle have done well generally.

Sheep have thriven, and the weight of fleece per animal is about the same as last year, and the grade is reported to be good. The price obtained was 10½d. per lb. for the whole of the Merino fleece wool, and 10d. for the whole of the fleece clip of grade Merino and Lincoln grade Merino.

The Angora and grade Angora goats have done well, and the improvement in the native goat by crossing with the pure Angora is excellent.

The crossing of the native donkey with the imported Catalanian jackass has been a success, and the higher crosses of this breed are showing much promise.

Mazeras.—The rainfall has been poor, and crops have suffered in consequence.

Forty-five acres were under cultivation, and during the year another seven acres were added for coconut and banana plantations.

The experiments conducted consisted of such crops as cotton, arrowroot, citrus, jute, maize, and simsim.

(D) DISEASES OF ANIMALS.

East Coast Fever.—Outbreaks occurred in the Nakuru and Uasin Gishu areas during the year.

There are now close on 70 dipping tanks in working order throughout the country, and the good results obtained have generally established the efficacy of regular dipping at three day intervals as a preventive against east coast fever.

Notwithstanding the present military crisis, several more dipping tanks are being constructed by settlers. Owing to the war and the consequent cutting down of expenditure, the general dipping scheme for the Protectorate has not been proceeded with to any extent, as funds were not available for the erection of district and stock route tanks.

Until these tanks have been erected it is impossible to establish universal dipping, and it is only by universal dipping that the suppression of east coast fever can be looked for.

Rinderpest.—Twelve outbreaks of this disease occurred during the year on European-owned farms. This disease is enzootic throughout most of the native reserves, and, owing to illicit movements of cattle from these reserves, many outbreaks have occurred in the settled districts in the neighbourhood of these areas. Under present conditions it has only been found possible to deal with outbreaks affecting European-owned cattle, and double inoculation has been carried out on an extensive scale in several districts with most satisfactory results.

230,384 doses of serum were sent out by the Kabete Laboratory during the year as follows:—

East Africa	99,664
Northern Rhodesia	30,240
Bechuanaland	10,080
Southern Rhodesia	35,280
Mozambique	15,040
Union of South Africa	40,080

Anthrax.—During the period under review anthrax assumed the form of an epizootic in the Nairobi and Thika districts. Two outbreaks occurred on the Uasin Gishu plateau.

A vaccine against anthrax was produced at the Veterinary Laboratory, and upwards of 23,000 doses were used with most beneficial results.

Pleuro-Pneumonia.—Notwithstanding the exercise of the greatest care, a recrudescence of this disease occurred in the Masai Reserve in April of last year.

Five villages were found infected, and altogether 4,774 cattle were placed in quarantine. The mortality in these herds has, fortunately, not been a large one.

Quarter Evil.—Three outbreaks of quarter evil occurred during the year, and this disease appears to be on the increase, particularly in the Lumbwa district.

Epizootic and Ulcerative Lymphangitis.—Dipping has been proved to be an efficient preventive against this disease, and in its treatment extremely good results have been obtained with a vaccine prepared by the laboratory.

Treatment of epizootic lymphangitis with potassium iodide is under trial at the Veterinary Laboratory, and the results so far have been extremely hopeful.

Horse Sickness.—Fifty-six cases were reported during the year, and most of these occurred in Nairobi. The mortality from this disease has not been a large one.

Scabies.—This disease is ubiquitous, and, while the hairy native sheep suffers little, the causal parasite has disastrous effects on the woolled animal.

Swine Fever.—It is probable that this highly contagious disease is not carried by air or through the medium of external parasites such as fleas or lice, but it has been proved capable of transmission by the ingestion of infected faecal matter or urine-soiled foodstuffs.

Advantage has been taken of this fact by several farmers, who have fenced in their pig runs with wire netting, thus eliminating the danger of infection from wild porcines.

There is no country in the world where pigs can be reared so cheaply, and pig breeding is rapidly becoming one of the most lucrative industries of the Protectorate.

V.—FORESTS.

EXPLOITATION.

On account of the set-back to the timber trade of the country consequent upon the War, there was a decreased output of timber and mangrove bark from the forests.

During the year 171,576 cubic feet of timber were cut and sold, as compared with 195,224 cubic feet in the previous year. The quantity of timber issued free to Government departments, natives and settlers, amounted to 51,071 cubic feet, as compared with 51,488 cubic feet in the previous year.

No figures are available to show the quantity of timber exploited from the Grogan forests during the year under report, but for the calendar year ending the 31st December, 1914, 142,007 cubic feet of milled timber were turned out of the Maji Mazuri mill and 1,160 cubic feet of unmilled logs were removed from the forests; 186.94 acres were "clear felled" near the above mill during the same period.

The Eldalat mill remained closed throughout the year.

The demand for seasoned local timber still remains in excess of the supply, the stocks of seasoned local timber being very restricted.

The selling prices for sawn local timber in Nairobi at the end of the year were:—

Cedar ..	Rs.120 to Rs.132	per ton of 50 cubic feet.
Podocarpus	Rs.102	" " " "
Muzaiti	Rs.216	" " " "
Other woods, Rs.100 to Rs.120		" " " "

The average selling prices for sawn imported timber in Nairobi at the end of the year were:—

Deals ..	Rs.138 to Rs.150	per ton of 50 cubic feet.
Pitch pine	Rs.200 to Rs.270	" " " "
Teak	Rs.300	" " " "

During the year 4,373 tons of timber were imported into the country valued at £21,237 16s., as compared with 10,516 tons, valued at £53,323, in the previous year. The value of timber exported was £84, as compared with £811 in the preceding year.

Railway Fuel.—2,955,423 cubic feet of firewood were cut in the Government forests, as compared with 3,435,372 cubic feet in the preceding year. The actual quantity taken over by the railway from the contractors over the whole length of the line was 7,155,938 cubic feet, as compared with 7,331,210 cubic feet in the previous year.

Cultural Operations.

A total area of 558·67 acres was planted, as compared with 476·08 acres in the previous year; in the forests adjoining the railway 474·28 acres were planted, as compared with 337·5 acres in the previous year.

Revenue.

The total cash revenue for the year was £7,064 1s. 9d., being £1,654 16s. 6d. less than in the preceding year, and £1,705 18s. 1d. less than the total estimated revenue for the year under report.

There is a satisfactory increase in the revenue derived from the sales of firewood and young trees, the increases being £270 18s. 1d. and £94 17s. 10d. respectively.

Expenditure.

The total net expenditure for the year was £11,105 19s. 2d., being an increase of £1,062 6s. over the expenditure for the year 1913-14.

Included in the above total is £500 contributed by the Uganda Railway Administration for the formation and maintenance of the fuel plantations; so that the actual expenditure debited to the department was £10,605 19s. 2d.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(A) RAILWAYS.

Uganda Railway.—The estimates for the year's working provided for an expenditure of £168,036, and anticipated gross earnings of £800,000. These figures are 48 per cent. and 57½ per cent., respectively, over the estimates for the previous year, and from the steady and regular increase in the past ten years, we should have worked very nearly to them.

Up to the time war was declared the traffic for the year was fully up to expectations.

The total revenue for the year was actually £515,925 or only 5½ per cent. less than the revenue for the previous year. Of this £129,376 was on account of military operations in the defence of the country, leaving £386,549 representing the normal traffic. Recognising the fact that ordinary traffic was greatly interfered with and in some cases practically stopped for such times as were necessary to carry out the transportation of troops, supplies, and munitions, and also that for two-thirds of the year there was no trade with German East Africa, from which we derived about 20 per cent. of our gross revenue, the amount actually received cannot be considered as other than satisfactory, and the original estimate of £800,000 would undoubtedly have been very nearly, if not altogether, an accomplished fact but for the causes already mentioned.

The estimated expenditure was £468,036, against which the actual expenditure for the year was £335,325.

The net earnings for the year were £180,600, a decrease of £32,884 on the previous year's working, and of £151,364 upon the estimated nett earnings. This gives a percentage of 2·81 per cent. profit upon the capital outlay of the railway against 3·39 per cent. in 1913-14, and 3·52 per cent. in 1912-13.

The total tonnage handled was 184,505 as against 189,556 last year.

The total goods receipts were Rs.4,605,250 compared with Rs.5,618,491 last year.

For the first four months these receipts showed an increase of over Rs.230,000.

Coaching receipts increased from Rs.1,411,073 to Rs.2,191,978.

The tonnage carried by the Lake steamers was 42,664.

The Lake flotilla has been increased by the addition of one steamship, the "Rusinga," which was launched in September, 1914, and commissioned in March last.

Two 50-ton and four 100-ton lighters have also been built, or were nearly ready for launching, at the end of the financial year.

Arrangements have been completed for the past three years for all the steamers to be fitted with oil fuel-burning installations, but pressure of work in the first instance and afterwards the War, have rendered it impossible for the necessary works and alterations to be carried out.

The line generally has been kept in a good and efficient state of maintenance. At the commencement of the year there were 53 stations open to traffic and three new stations under construction. During the year one station was completed and 14 additional new stations will be put in hand when opportunities arise.

Thika Railway.—The Thika Railway, 32 miles in length, which was opened for traffic in October, 1913, has so far proved itself essentially a passenger line, fully three-quarters of its revenue being derived from coaching traffic. The line during the past year has almost balanced receipts and expenditure, the nett effect being a slight loss. This

should disappear in the very near future, when the large areas under fibre and coffee commence to repay the years of preparation and waiting.

Busoga Railway.—The total revenue was Rs.135,347 and the expenditure Rs.172,937. The deficiency may be attributed to the War, and to the lateness of the cotton crop.

The total revenue of the Busoga Railway Marine was Rs. 165,547 and the expenditure Rs. 137,006.

(B) ROADS.

In the Township and District of Nairobi over 22,000 running feet of fully metalled road were either constructed or completely reconstructed, while over 9,000 feet of murrum-surfaced road with stone foundation, and 67,000 feet of murrum road were constructed. In addition, nearly 12,000 feet of road were resurfaced with murrum and 41,000 feet of road repaired.

In the Naivasha Division work on the Uasin Gishu Road continued up to November, operations being chiefly confined to metalling from Londiani outwards. Other work included repairs to the Nakuru-Solai road, a deviation of 20 miles on the Nakuru-Baringo road, and repairs to the Londiani-Ravine road.

In the Kisumu District, the Kisumu-Mumias road was kept in fair condition and it is hoped that funds may soon be forthcoming to enable it to be metalled, as it carries more wheeled traffic than all the other roads in the Protectorate.

Repairs were undertaken on the Lumbwa-Kericho road, and considerable improvements were effected to the Kendu-Kisii road.

In the Nyeri Division the Nyeri-Meru road was continued.

In Jubaland an improved alignment for the Kismayu-Gobwen road was set out, and construction was commenced by the Administrative officers.

The total expenditure on new roads and bridges amounted to £14,315, of which £3,958 were derived from the vote under P.W.E. and £10,357 from premia on the sale of land during 1913-14.

(C) POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

The Post and Telegraph services, which are amalgamated with those of the Uganda Protectorate, include 127 post offices and agencies, of which 40 are also money order offices. There are 111 telegraph offices, including those combined with post offices and those worked by the Uganda and Busoga Railways.

Revenue.

The total Post and Telegraph revenue of the combined Protectorates amounted to £41,848 12s. 1d. as compared with £44,428 13s. 10d. in 1913-14, a decrease of 5·8 per cent.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure, including the cost of telegraph and telephone construction and maintenance in both Protectorates amounted to £64,492 8s. 9d., as compared with £51,286 18s. 5½d., an increase of £13,205 10s. 3½d., or 26 per cent.

Telegraphs.

In July the inland telegraph rates were reduced from one rupee for 10 words to 75 cents. for a plain language telegram of 12 words. In spite of the reduction and in spite of the war an increase of 5 per cent. is shown for East Africa, which indicates that but for the war a substantial increase would have been recorded.

Uganda, however, shows a decrease in telegraph revenue although a greater number of telegrams was handled, shewing that the reduction in rates was not compensated by a sufficient increase in the number of telegrams.

Telegrams.

The number of telegrams dealt with shews an increase for East Africa of 40½ per cent. and for Uganda of 33 per cent.

Postal Matter.

The number of letters, postcards, newspapers, and book-packets dealt with in the combined Protectorates during the year is estimated at 5,458,860, as compared with 5,280,743 in 1913-14, an increase of 3·4 per cent.

Parcel Post.

During the year under review 68,981 parcels were dealt with in the combined Protectorates, as compared with 76,406 in the preceeding year, a decrease of 10 per cent.

Registered Letters.

The total number of registered packets dealt with in the combined Protectorates during the year amounted to 147,712, as compared with 156,893 last year, a decrease of 6 per cent.

Money Orders.

In the two Protectorates 34,216 orders, amounting to £283,613, were issued and 17,392 of the value of £178,638 were paid.

Post Office Savings Bank.

At the end of the financial year the accounts for 1913-14 and 1914-15 stood as follows:—

Deposits.

			£
1913-14	..	..	46,595
1914-15	..	..	50,509
			<hr/>
			£3,914

Increase, 8 per cent.

Withdrawals.

			£
.	1913-14	.. ..	32,143
	1914-15	.. ..	46,803
			<hr/>
			£14,660

Increase, 46 per cent. (due to very heavy withdrawals at the outbreak of war).

On the 31st March, 1915, there were 3,254 active accounts, representing an increase of 11 per cent. during the year. The total amount standing to the credit of depositors was £53,068, as compared with £48,319 on the 31st of March, 1914, an increase of 10 per cent. The total amount invested in first class securities on the 31st of March, 1915, was £50,000.

VII.—JUDICIAL, LEGAL, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

(A) JUDICIAL.

The total number of cases dealt with during the year by the High Court is practically the same as in the previous year, though the year under review includes eight months of the War.

The number of original criminal cases remains at about the same figure, but there is a gratifying decrease in the criminal appellate work, which has dropped steadily to half of what it was in 1910-11, an indication of a high level of efficiency among the magistrates.

The native subordinate courts, presided over by Liwalis, Mudirs, and Kathis, in the coast belt, have given general satisfaction, as is evidenced by the small number of appeals entered or applications for revision made.

Native Tribunals.—These tribunals are most active in those provinces which contain populous native reserves within which their jurisdiction is exercised.

Since the introduction of the Native Authority Ordinance their powers have necessarily been widened to enable them to assist the Government by enforcing orders for the better administration of native reserves.

They are directly supervised by the District and Assistant District Commissioners.

During the year the Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa held two ordinary sessions and one special session, and dealt with 35 appeals, of which 30 were from the High Court of East Africa. Seventeen of the appeals were on the civil and 18 on the criminal side.

(B) LEGAL.

The following are the principal Ordinances passed during the year :—

The Criminal Procedure Ordinance, 1913 (No. 6 of 1914).—An Ordinance to make provision for procedure in criminal courts.

The Pawnbrokers Amendment Ordinance, 1914 (No. 10 of 1914).—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to the business of pawn-broking.

The Lunacy Amendment Ordinance, 1914 (No. 11 of 1914).—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to lunacy.

The British and Colonial Probates Ordinance, 1914 (No. 15 of 1914).—An Ordinance to provide for the recognition in the Protectorate of probate and letters of administration granted in the United Kingdom or in a British Possession or Protectorate or in a British Court in a foreign country.

The Wild Birds Protection Amendment Ordinance, 1914 (No. 17 of 1914).—An Ordinance to make provision for the protection of wild birds' eggs.

The Land Titles Registration Amendment Ordinance, 1914 (No. 23 of 1914).—An Ordinance to amend the law concerning land titles in so far as it relates to the registration of documents.

The Death Duties (Killed in War) Ordinance, 1915 (No. 8 of 1915).—An Ordinance to provide relief from fees payable on the estates of persons dying from wounds inflicted, accident occurring, or disease contracted on active service against an enemy.

Registration of Documents.

During the period under review the Principal Registry was transferred from Mombasa to Nairobi and the Mombasa office placed under the control of a Registrar of Documents.

Very important changes took place in procedure. By the Registration of Documents Amendment Ordinance, 1914, all instruments presented for registration must be accompanied by duplicates. These duplicates, after being compared with the originals, are filed in the records of the Registration Office and the originals are ready to be handed back to the presenters after an interval of a day or two instead of after several months under the old system, which involved the copying of all documents in manuscript into the registration books.

A new scale of fees has been introduced in consequence of this alteration in procedure.

The registration of all deeds referring to properties which have been the subject of investigation by the Recorder of Titles and for which certificates of ownership have been granted now takes place in Mombasa. This is the first step towards centralization of registration of transactions in immovable property in the coast area.

(c) POLICE.

The total number of recruits enlisted during the year was 467, as compared with 486 in 1913, and of that number 4 only were Asiatics, who are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain.

272 recruits were under training at the depot on the 1st January 1914, and the total number dealt with, therefore, during the year was 739.

A total of 320 recruits were passed out of the depot during the year and posted to districts as trained constables.

The health of all ranks, whether European, Asiatic, or African must be classed as very good, though at times the number of recruits on the sick list was somewhat heavy, due principally to change in diet and mode of life.

(D) PRISONS.

A total number of 10,317 prisoners were admitted to the various prisons, as compared with 9,293 during the previous year.

Of these, 1,448 were long term prisoners, 3,945 short term prisoners, 4,878 were committed for safe custody while awaiting trial, etc., and 46 were debtors.

Included in the total were 112 women and 55 juveniles.

The average prison population throughout the year was 1702·4 as compared with 1639·87 in 1913-14. This slight increase is accounted for by the large number of persons committed for safe custody by the military authorities prior to the formation of military prison camps; it is satisfactory to note that there has been a decrease of 499 in the number of persons committed for the purpose of imprisonment.

The industrial sections of the first class prisons at Mombasa and Nairobi continue to do much good work; technical training is confined to carpentry, masonry and tailoring, while the labour of those devoid of aptitude for higher grade work has, as formerly, been lent to the Public Works Department, Medical Officer of Health, Uganda Railway, and other public departments thus materially reducing their expenditure.

In the provincial and district prisons the prisoners have been employed, as in former years, in bush clearing, road making, tree planting, the cultivation of prison farms, and generally in keeping the stations and their environments clean.

VIII.—CLIMATE AND HEALTH.

(A)—PUBLIC HEALTH.

1. *The Coast Zone.*

Communicable Diseases.—It is satisfactory to record that there was a notable decrease in the number of out-patients treated in Mombasa for malaria, in fact the total number of in and out patients is actually less

than the out-patients return alone for 1913. The total of 5,489 cases with 17 deaths is the lowest for the last three years in the Coast Zone, being 696 cases fewer than in 1913; the deaths being 17 as compared with 22 in 1913.

Seven cases of blackwater fever occurred in the Mombasa and Kilindi district with 3 deaths. Of these 4 were Europeans of whom 2 died.

Infectious or Epidemic Diseases.—There were 33 new cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis in Mombasa with 15 deaths, being an increase on the previous year when 13 cases and 10 deaths were recorded.

Dysentery is still prevalent at Mombasa amongst the Kikuyu labourers.

Eight cases of enteric were admitted, with two deaths.

As against the 27 admissions for plague recorded in 1912 and the epidemic of last year of 208, it is very satisfactory to state that only two cases, both fatal, came to the notice of the Medical Officers in Mombasa.

No better tribute could be paid to the soundness of the anti-plague campaign inaugurated by Professor Simpson during the previous year.

2. The Mountainous Zone.

Communicable Diseases.—Compared with previous years a larger number came for treatment for malaria than usual. The total admissions were 3,851.

In Nairobi the infection appears to be widespread amongst natives as post mortem examination reveals a large percentage with enlarged spleen.

Naivasha town and Kiambu are apparently quite free from malaria.

Eight cases of blackwater fever were reported, 5 being European and 3 native; one European died.

Infectious or Epidemic Diseases.—136 cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis are recorded, with 51 deaths. Of this number 106 cases and 47 deaths occurred at Nairobi. In 1913 there were 288 cases with 152 deaths.

Dysentery is common, but it is not so often fatal as at the coast, only 49 deaths being notified.

Both types, bacillary and amoebic, were present.

The returns for enteric show an increase on the previous three years, with a more severe death roll:—

	Admissions.			Deaths.		
1914	46	..	..	10
1913	21	..	..	1
1912	23	..	..	2

No cases came under observation of patients who had been previously inoculated.

Nine cases of plague occurred in Nairobi, six of which were fatal.

3.—*The Kenya and Nyanza Provinces.*

Communicable Diseases.—Over 4,000 cases of malaria were treated—2,300 in the Nyanza and 1,900 in the Kenya Province.

Infectious or Epidemic Diseases.—Forty five cases of cerebro spinal meningitis were reported during the year, a very decided improvement over 1914. There were 28 deaths. The epidemic would have appeared to have almost completely died out in Kenya Province.

There was a slight increase in cases of dysentery this year, the number being 492 as against 428.

Nine cases of enteric were recorded with one death. Three of the cases occurred amongst Europeans, none of which proved fatal.

Forty one cases of plague amongst natives, 38 of which proved fatal, were admitted in Kisumu and one case of a European lady who recovered.

4.—*The Desert Zone.*

Communicable Diseases.—There was an appreciable decrease in the number of cases recorded this year, i.e., 1,547 cases as against 2,125 in 1913 in Jubaland.

Two cases of blackwater were reported at Serenli, the first that have been brought to notice since 1902. One was a Somali and one Nandi.

Infectious or Epidemic Diseases.—Beri-beri is still liable to be a source of anxiety in the upper reaches of the Juba. The type, however, appears to be milder, 70 cases being treated as out-patients and 2 as in-patients, with no deaths.

(B) SANITATION.

1.—*Preventive Measures.*

Malaria.—Anti malarial measures are being actively prosecuted in Mombasa, Nairobi, and Kisumu, the presence of Sanitary Inspectors exercising a beneficial influence.

Quinine prophylaxis has been adopted in various localities with some amount of success.

Millions fish have been imported from Zanzibar and have been established in tanks at Mombasa.

Trypanosomiasis.—The actual number of cases treated during the year was 4, with 1 death.

Plague.—Plague has appeared sporadically in Mombasa, Nairobi, Kisumu, Machakos, Makindu, and Maragoli.

In addition to the above an outbreak of plague was reported at Maragoli in June and July and some 20 deaths were certified. Fortunately the measures adopted were successful, and the disease has not spread.

Dysentery.—The presence of amœbic dysentery has been surprisingly small, and the good results following the exhibition of emetine have been maintained.

Enteric Fever.—The number of reported cases was 61, with 14 deaths.

2.—General Measures.

Sewage Disposal.—No sewage works have been installed in any township in the country; night soil is disposed of by dumping into the sea, trenching, reception into cess pools, or distribution on the ground.

The duplicate bucket system is not used.

The Water Supply.—The outbreak of hostilities, and consequent financial disturbance has resulted in the much-needed water schemes for Kisumu and Nakuru being either held in abeyance or materially curtailed; the new water supply for Mombasa has not as yet reached that town; and the protective works at Nairobi intake have not been commenced.

Drainage.—Some advance has been made in the main drainage scheme for Nairobi.

Much excellent work has been done in Mombasa by the Health Office Staff in draining the low lying areas in Miembeni, where various road drains have been constructed.

Bush Clearing.—Considerable work has been done in the principal towns, while in many outstations similar work has been performed with most excellent results, but it has necessarily been curtailed by the limitation of funds.

IX.—NATIVE ADMINISTRATION.

(A) HIGHLANDS AND NYANZA BASIN PROVINCES.

(1) Nyanza Province.

The Nyanza Province consists of the Kisumu, North and South Kavirondo, Nandi, and Lumbwa Districts.

The population of the province is estimated at 1,110,500, comprising 1,108,400 natives, 396 Europeans, 1,683 Asiatics, and 19 Anglo-Indians.

The chiefs and elders of the Kisumu and North Kavirondo districts made spontaneous gifts of live-stock as meat for the troops, and assisted very materially in sending out their young men to join the Carrier Corps. The approximate value of the gifts presented was Rs.27,000.

Trade.—Trade in imported goods was very good indeed until August. Subsequently a satisfactory revival was noted towards the end of the year.

The native produce trade has seriously decreased but will improve with the return of normal conditions.

(2) *Naivasha Province.*

The European population is about 1,600 and the native population approximately 133,000.

Trade.—The Nakuru District possesses the most extensively cultivated areas in the province. Early in the year several properties changed hands and there is a tendency to split up the larger areas, thereby extending the cultivation. Prices asked for land range from £1 to £5 per acre according to the locality.

There are several large fuel-cutting camps in the Nakuru District, employing upwards of 2,000 natives. The crops in this district have done well.

(3) *Masai Reserve.*

The Reserve is divided into two districts, with headquarters at Ngong and Narok River. Engirende (Mara River) has been made a sub-station.

The population is about 32,000.

Trade.—By an agreement with the Masai, trade centres were established at 24 places within the reserve. This immediately attracted a large number of Europeans, Asiatics, and natives desirous of opening stores, and over 70 plots had been applied for by the end of the year.

Trade generally has shown considerable expansion.

Of cattle, 3,629 head were removed from the reserve as compared with 833 in 1913-14, while of sheep and goats the numbers were 101,844 as compared with 62,492. In addition, 2,624 bullocks and 40,646 sheep have been bought for the use of the troops.

Manufactured articles are sold to the Masai on an increasing scale but the quantity is still very small.

Native Affairs.—The administration has proceeded almost normally in spite of the disturbing influences of the War.

The natives have increased their wealth and are contented and happy.

Relations with the Government are excellent, and serious crime has been almost non-existent.

(4) *Kenya Province.*

The European population is estimated at 243 and the native population at approximately 871,000.

Trade.—There are 16 trade centres in the province, the chief articles in demand being blankets, cloth, beads, salt, wire, and ghee. Agricultural implements are also more in demand.

In the Thika district there were at the end of the year 5,000 acres under sisal, 2,000 acres under coffee, and 300 acres under catch crops. Increasing quantities of sisal are being exported.

The native councils are working satisfactorily and fortnightly meetings are held in the Government stations.

The improvement in the social condition of the people is slowly increasing.

Means of communication in the reserve have been much improved. All the chief trading centres are connected by roads made and kept up by the natives themselves.

(5) *Ukamba Province.*

The total white population of the Province is estimated at 2,804 and the native population at approximately 371,000.

Trade.—Trade has suffered severely as a result of the War, and also from the severe drought which prevailed during a large portion of the year. The spending capacity of the native has been considerably curtailed, but there is every hope that a return to normal conditions will speedily effect improvement.

The trade in imported goods required by natives is only yet in its infancy. The chief articles in demand are blankets, beads, brass and copper wire, hoes, sugar, salt, flour, and rice. It is expected that with better communications there will be a brisk demand for tools, axes, iron ware, tobacco, shirts, and knickers.

Prior to the outbreak of war trade in Nairobi was steady, but subsequently imports were very materially reduced. Money has not been scarce and there have been no insolvencies of note. Town property maintains its price but is not inflated.

The business of land agents, architects, and contractors has suffered considerably, while orders from the military authorities have greatly assisted firms of timber merchants, engineers, clothiers, etc.

(B) COAST PROVINCES.

(1) *Seyidie Province.*

The European population is 361 and the native population approximately 196,000. There are 8,381 Asiatics.

Trade.—Trade flourished until the outbreak of war, when there was a serious set-back for four months. In the latter part of the year, however, conditions improved very materially.

It is hoped to encourage the manufacture of copra in the Rabai sub-district; this district is responsible for a brisk trade in cattle, goats, chickens, and eggs.

Sim-sim is grown in the Takaungu district.

An official of the Agricultural Department has travelled extensively throughout the province with a view to the improvement of the coconut industry.

The chief products are coconuts, maize, millet, gum copal, wood of all kinds, sim-sim oil, and wild rubber.

(2) *Tanaland Province.*

The European population is 33 and the native population approximately 39,000.

Trade.—The cocoa-nut crop in Lamu district was good, 482 tons of copra being exported.

Large quantities of maize are exported by the Wapokomo.

The War has had no effect on the Mohammedan population and whatever spirit of opposition to the Government may have existed in past years has now quite disappeared.

The same satisfactory conditions prevail amongst the riverside population of the Tana.

(3) *Jubaland Province.*

The European population is 31 and the native population approximately 14,000. The Somali population in the interior is annually increasing and cannot be accurately estimated.

During the year unprecedented floods were experienced in the Gosha and Kismayu districts. Most of the European plantations had to be abandoned and all standing crops in Gosha were destroyed. The Government station at Alexandra only escaped by the constant erection and repairing of dams day and night.

Native crops generally are expected to be very good as the result of the recent floods.

Grain, hides, ghee, and cattle form the main exports.

(C) NORTHERN FRONTIER DISTRICT.

Trade.—Large numbers of cattle have been imported from Abyssinia and Jubaland and taken to Wajheir and other Somali centres.

There is a considerable trade in “bun” (coffee-berries) and the importation of coffee for Somali consumption has much increased.

Trade with Jubaland progresses satisfactorily.

A waggon road 100 miles in length has been cut from the Uso Nyiro Post to Merti and is regularly used for the transport of supplies for Wajheir and Garreh districts.

X.—EDUCATION.

On the whole there has been a great improvement in the development of education during the year under review.

European Schools.

(1) *Nairobi Division “A” School.*—By the increase of two teachers the work in the school has been better organised. The half yearly examination showed that excellent work had been done throughout

the school. There were forty-five prospective candidates for the College of Preceptors' examination who would undoubtedly have done very creditably, as their final test showed, but, unfortunately, owing to the delay in the steamer service on account of the war, the examination papers arrived some weeks after the dates of the examinations.

(2) *Nakuru Division "A" School*.—This school is doing very useful work and the teachers have worked hard to make the school a success.

(3) *Uasin Gishu Central School*.—Owing to the increase of children on the plateau, now numbering over 300, the Central School at Eldoret was opened in February as a day school to meet the needs for the education of those children living in Eldoret. It is hoped to open the building as a boarding school at an early date.

(4) *Dutch Schools, Uasin Gishu*.—A great deal of difficulty is experienced in procuring suitable teachers for these schools, as the teachers are required to have a working knowledge of Dutch. The school at Wheeler's Farm is doing excellent work, but the number of pupils has to be limited on account of want of accommodation. Besides the three farm schools supported by Government there are several schools conducted by the Dutch Reform Church.

Indian Schools.

The number of pupils at Nairobi has increased to 150 and no more can be admitted owing to limited accommodation.

At Mombasa progress is being made, but the present building is somewhat unsatisfactory.

Native Education.

Ukamba Industrial School, Machakos.—The school will open on April 1st, and already over 70 applications have been received from Wakamba chiefs to have their children admitted as boarders. The school can only accommodate 39 at present, but later on when funds are available, it is intended to admit about 30 pupils every year so that these pupils will be in successive stages, and there should be a constant supply of trained boys fit to join the railway, Public Works Departments, and settlers requiring the services of trained artisans.

At Mombasa Arab School a great improvement has taken place in the numbers of pupils attending and in the general tone of the school.

Technical Education.

The remarks made by the conducting officers appointed to examine the candidates in carpentry, stone work, medical work, agriculture and printing, show that a higher standard has been reached.

XI.—LAND AND SURVEYS.

(A) LANDS.

Revenue.—The revenue for the financial year amounted to £19,381, rents accounting for £18,516, and sales for £865. The amount estimated for rents was £24,400, although after the outbreak of war,

when it was decided that no further auctions of land should take place, a revised estimate was submitted in November of £22,400. The War has made the collection of rents exceedingly difficult, and to this cause mainly must be attributed the large deficit in the amount collected compared with the amount estimated.

In a number of cases lessees serving with the forces have been granted an extension of time for payment of rent.

Alienation of Land.—The total number of land grants made during the calendar year 1914 was 312, amounting to 639,640 acres, compared with 447 grants the previous year, amounting to 572,159 acres. Of the figure 312, however, 192 represent grants held under licence or old leases for which new titles were issued in 1914, so that the actual number of new grants was only 120. Of these 120, the area of which was 97,174 acres, 45 grants were farms, and 75 were business, residential, mission, and church plots.

Land Available for Allotment.—Last year there were 495 farms surveyed and ready for allotment. To-day there are some 880 farms surveyed and available for sale, but this number is likely to be reduced by about 40, inasmuch as a certain number will be retained by the Government as townships and other reserves, and a further number will be applied in satisfaction of certain outstanding claims.

The New Crown Lands Ordinance.—It is hoped that this important measure, which has for so long been under consideration will shortly become law. Two very important measures have recently been incorporated in the Bill. The first point is the substitution of a lease for a licence in the first instance, which, being practically freely transferable, gives the lessee a negotiable security on which he can raise money. The second point is the term of the lease, which has been increased from 99 to 999 years.

The most important provisions of the Bill, which have been framed with a view of assuring development and prosperity, are the portions providing for the maintenance of development on farms, and the provisions whereby the rental is reassessed at fixed intervals, thus assuring to the State a share in the increased prosperity.

Coast Land Settlement.—The total revenue actually collected during the year amounts to Rs.21,779 as against rupees 11,474. The revenue due to the Government but outstanding on certificates endorsed amounts to Rs.8,695.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure was Rs.126,179.

(B) SURVEYS.

On the outbreak of war, the Trigonometrical and Topographical Branch was the only body of Royal Engineers in the Protectorate and was immediately employed on military duty and has continued to be so employed.

The programme of work of the field season was the completion of the topography over sheets S.A.36/F, S.A.36/K, and S.A.37/G, the running of lines of precise levels along the Juba River from Kismayu

to a point about 30 miles up stream, the remeasurement of the Italian base in Italian Somaliland, and the extension of the Italian triangulation carried out in 1912 to the right bank of the Juba River, with the idea of eventually extending triangulation up stream towards Serenli and Lugh.

The topography of sheet S.A.36/F was well in hand and the sheet half completed when war broke out. All field parties were recalled to headquarters and the work of the branch stopped.

As regards cadastral surveys, several members of the staff volunteered for service locally and others joined the forces while on leave in England. The staff has consequently been reduced and the output of work seriously retarded. However, the output of surveyed farms is larger than that of any previous year, and the cost of work per acre compares very favourably with that of the past.

The demands made by the military authorities on the drawing office were very exacting, and the number of plans actually prepared and issued exceeds all previous records by over 1,100.

The revenue was £1,145 and the expenditure £5,207.

XII.—GAME.

During the year there has been naturally a considerable decrease in the number of game licences issued of all kinds, more particularly in sportsmen's and travellers' licences.

Game Reserves.

Northern Reserve.—Information regarding this reserve has been difficult to obtain during the last eight months. Game is, however, reported to be plentiful, including elephant, rhinoceros, and buffalo, and it appears from reports from the district officers in the Northern Frontier District, that rhinoceros are so numerous as to constitute a nuisance.

Southern Reserve.—This reserve has unfortunately been the theatre of military operations, and since the beginning of the War numbers of troops have been stationed in it.

A certain amount of game has necessarily been shot for food, but it is not considered that the amount of game that has been or is likely to be killed, will make any difference in future years.

The most noteworthy point in regard to this reserve is the number of elephants that have been seen in the Matapato country and within a comparatively short distance of Kiu. This might perhaps be due to their having been disturbed in the Tsavo district, but from native reports it appears that they have been coming there in increasing numbers during the last few years.

Principal Game Districts.—These have practically been free from shooting parties for the last eight months and the rest will no doubt be beneficial.

On the Loita plains and Southern Guaso Nyiro district a certain amount of game has doubtless been killed for food by intelligence posts on the border.

Laikipia and the Northern country have had a complete rest, as also has the Tana River.

In the Voi district there has been probably rather more shooting than usual, but little has been done on the Serengeti plains except possibly by Germans.

The value of ivory confiscated, though unsold, shows a decrease.

The stock and condition of the game in the Protectorate can, as in the last annual report, be considered as quite satisfactory. A slight outbreak of rinderpest occurred in the Matapato district of the Southern Game Reserve in March and about a dozen eland and oryx were reported as having been found dead, but it was nothing serious and most of the game, even the most susceptible species, appear to have a considerable immunity from this disease.

XIII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £182,430, as compared with £188,877 in 1913-14. The outbreak of hostilities necessitated retrenchment to the extent of £66,015. Loan expenditure amounted to £22,205.

During the year some 32,000 feet of concrete drains, opened and covered, and of various sections, were completed with regard to the Nairobi Drainage Scheme. In addition, over 19,000 lineal feet of earth drains were constructed. Work on public buildings in Nairobi included the laying of the foundation and plinth for the new police station, additions to the prison, the completion of five bungalows, additions to the survey office, additions to the Principal Medical Officer's office, reconstruction of certain quarters of the subordinate staff, addition to the General Post Office.

In the Masai Reserve, four dams were constructed, two at Ngorigori, one on the Weikei River, and one on the Penyin. The two former, on the edge of the Loita Plains, were respectively 325 feet long by 9 feet high in the centre, and 400 feet long by 20 feet high. The Weikei River dam is 308 feet long and 30 feet high in the centre. It is stone pitched on both slopes, and the water impounded is 1,220,000 cubic feet. The cost of this latter work was £830. The Penyin River dam is 462 feet long, 16 feet high in the deepest part and is pitched on

both slopes. The water impounded is 660,000 cubic feet. The cost up to March 31st was £860. These works will greatly improve the water supply in the Reserve.

Loan Works.—The close of the year saw the main pipe line from the headworks to Changamwe completed. The total expenditure on this project up to date is £79,507.

Training of Apprentices.—Eight boys have now completed the course provided. In most cases these boys have elected to work as carpenters in the shops of the department. The general progress has been satisfactory.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
847	St. Helena	1914
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915
874	British Guiana	"
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914-1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	"
878	Nigeria	"
879	Cayman Islands	"
880	St. Lucia	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON.
PRINTED BY THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.
1916.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

LIBRARY
JUN 15 1916

No. 882.

REPORT, BY THE DIRECTOR, ON
THE WORK OF THE IMPERIAL
INSTITUTE, 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 816 [Cd. 7622-7] of 1914.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
April, 1916.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd. 8172-8.] Price 2d.

No. 882.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE, 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 816 [Cd. 7622-7] of 1914.)

NOTE.—That Report includes a Preliminary Statement, with list of Advisory Committee, &c.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE IMPERIAL
INSTITUTE IN 1914. BY PROFESSOR WYNDHAM R.
DUNSTAN, C.M.G., M.A., LL.D., F.R.S., *Director*.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE
Introduction	3		
Report on Operations in 1914	6		
	PAGE		PAGE
India	6	Union of South Africa	19
Ceylon	9	St. Helena	21
Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States	10	Mauritius	21
Hong Kong	11	Seychelles	22
Nigeria	11	Cyprus	22
Gold Coast	13	Canada	23
Sierra Leone	14	Newfoundland	24
Gambia	14	West Indies, including Bermuda and the Bahamas	24
Egypt	14	British Honduras	25
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	15	British Guiana	26
Somaliland	16	Falkland Islands	26
Uganda	16	Australia and Papua	26
East Africa Protectorate	17	New Zealand	28
Zanzibar and Pemba	18	Fiji	29
Nyasaland	18	Western Pacific	29
Rhodesia	19	United Kingdom	29
Appendix: Publications issued in 1914	31		

INTRODUCTION.

This report relates to the work carried out during the year 1914 in the several Departments of the Imperial Institute. The following paragraphs give a general account of the operations of these Departments.

Scientific and Technical Research Department.—The principal work of this Department, consisting in the investigation of new or little-known natural resources of the Empire, and especially of the Colonies and India, with the object of ascertaining their suitability for industrial utilisation, is chiefly initiated by the Home and Colonial Governments and the Government of India. Reference to the more important materials examined in 1914 is made later in this report; in most cases, the products were investigated in the laboratories and subsequently submitted to manufacturers and commercial experts for technical trial and valuation. Expert assistance of this kind was generously afforded, although during the latter part of the year many of the firms consulted were seriously handicapped by shortage of labour and other difficulties caused by the war. Machinery has been provided for conducting vulcanisation tests with rubber and for determining the mechanical properties of vulcanised rubber (see p. 9). During 1914, the installation of a timber-testing workshop was commenced, but the construction of the plant has been delayed by difficulties arising out of the war.

In addition to the work carried out on behalf of the British, Colonial and Indian Governments, requests have been received from manufacturers in the United Kingdom and from producers and others abroad for assistance of a similar kind and an arrangement has now been made with the sanction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies whereby, in certain cases, investigations are undertaken for firms or private persons in any part of the Empire on payment of appropriate charges.

Mineral Surveys, under the supervision of the Director of the Imperial Institute and conducted by Surveyors selected by him, were in progress during 1914 in Ceylon, the Gwalior State of Central India, and the Mozambique Company's Territory in Portuguese East Africa. The various specimens collected were examined at the Imperial Institute with a view to the determination of their composition and commercial value.

The number of reports completed by the Scientific and Technical Research Department in 1914 was 400, and 103 investigations were in progress at the end of the year.

Specimens of the chief products (animal, vegetable, and mineral) examined during the year have been placed on exhibition in the Reference Sample Room.

Technical Information Bureau.—The work of the Scientific and Technical Research Department has hitherto included investigations and enquiries, the former relating to the experimental work on products and therefore to the creation of new information, whereas enquiries involve the collection and critical collation of existing information. In recent years, however, the number of enquiries has increased so much that it has been necessary to form a separate organisation for dealing with them. This new organisation is the Technical Information Bureau which was started in October, 1914, fortunately in time to deal with the mass of enquiries which the outbreak of war brought in its train. The number of these special enquiries has been so great that it has been impossible for the small staff to deal with them, and it has been necessary at times to detach other members of the staff of the Imperial Institute from other work to give assistance. The situation has been further complicated by the fact that a number of the technical members of the staff joined His Majesty's Forces. In spite of these difficulties all the enquiries have been promptly dealt with, thanks to the loyalty and strenuous exertions of the staff.

It may be of interest to mention the nature of the enquiries which have been dealt with as the result of the outbreak of the war. By far the most important have been those relating to the disposal in this country of Colonial and Indian materials which formerly went to Germany and Austria, such as palm kernels, copra, ground nuts, wattle bark, etc. The Institute has issued special circulars to British manufacturers descriptive of these products, calling attention to the possibilities they offer for new industries. This action has been most successful.

Another series of enquiries was received from British manufacturers who had depended on German sources for supplies of raw and partially manufactured materials, apparatus and plant. In many cases it proved most difficult to find at once new British sources of supply, and certain problems, particularly that of the supply of potash salts to glass manufacturers are still unsolved, but in most cases it was possible to put the enquirers into touch with existing British sources of supply, and in others to induce British firms to start the manufacture required.

A further series of enquiries was received from British manufacturers who had experienced technical difficulties in new branches of manufacture which they had undertaken. In many of these cases it was possible to suggest suitable means of overcoming the difficulties.

Much of this work is still in progress and is the subject of correspondence with the firms concerned, and it is hoped that in next year's report it may be possible to report further progress in overcoming the serious difficulties which beset the Colonial producer and the British manufacturer on the outbreak of war, especially so far as the export and utilisation of Colonial and Indian raw materials are concerned.

As an example of the demands made on the staff by these special enquiries caused by the war, it may be mentioned that the total number

of enquiries received and answered during 1914 was 977; of these, 328 were received during the last three months of the year. The total number of special technical circulars distributed to British firms was 1,067.

Public Exhibition Galleries.—The collections of economic products illustrating the resources of the Dominions, Colonies, and India have been increased by the addition of new exhibits to the various courts. A special endeavour has been made to enhance their educational value by means of statistical and economic maps and diagrams, illustrating the production and trade of each part of the Empire; which are constantly revised and kept up to date. Parties from schools are frequently conducted through the courts by the Technical Superintendents who explain the exhibits. The London County Council have shown their appreciation of these educational demonstrations. The Ceylon Pavilion, decorated in Kandyan style and containing pictures illustrative of the tea industry of Ceylon and exhibits of native industrial art, was opened to the public in June, 1914; it forms an interesting addition to the Public Exhibition Galleries (see page 10).

The Central Stand for publications and the Enquiry Office have been maintained in the main gallery to facilitate the supply of information and the distribution of literature relating to the commerce and industries of the principal British Possessions and also to emigration.

The number of ordinary visitors to the exhibition galleries during 1914 was 185,660. The number of publications distributed to enquirers at the Central Stand was 11,916.

Library, Reading Rooms, and Map Room.—The library and reading rooms are regularly supplied with the more important official publications as well as with many of the principal newspapers and technical periodicals from all parts of the British Empire and from certain foreign countries. During 1914, a scheme of rearrangement and extension of the library was undertaken with the double object of rendering it more comprehensive and of utilising the space to the fullest advantage. The existing sections of the library were thoroughly overhauled and many new and important works added. This work is still in progress. The map room, which contains a large and valuable collection of maps of the Dominions, Colonies, and India, has been considerably added to.

The additions to the library during the year number 1,735 volumes and 26,712 newspapers and periodicals.

Publications.—Reference to the quarterly "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute" and a list of the various publications issued during 1914 will be found in the Appendix (p. 31).

Tropical African Services Course.—Courses of instruction in certain specified subjects are given at the Imperial Institute to candidates selected by the Colonial Office for administrative appointments in East and West Africa. Instruction in the subject of Tropical Economic Products is given by a member of the staff of the Imperial Institute. The 18th, 19th, and 20th sessions were held during 1914.

International Congress of Tropical Agriculture.—This Congress was held at the Imperial Institute from the 23rd to 30th June, 1914, under the auspices of the International Association for Tropical Agriculture, and was attended by delegates from all parts of the world. The opening address was delivered by the President, Professor W. R. Dunstan, C.M.G., LL.D., F.R.S., and various subjects were discussed and papers read relating to questions connected with tropical agriculture and the development and utilisation of natural resources, especially those of tropical countries. The Proceedings of the Congress have now been published and the Transactions are in the press.

REPORT ON OPERATIONS IN 1914.

In the following pages, reference is made to the chief operations of the Imperial Institute in 1914 by means of a separate section for each part of the Empire. Each section is sub-divided into three portions—Investigations, Enquiries, and Exhibits. The “Investigations” refer to the work of the Scientific and Technical Research Department, the “Enquiries” to the work of the Technical Information Bureau, and the “Exhibits” to the work of the Public Exhibition Galleries.

Most of the materials referred to were received from Departments of the Colonial and Indian Governments.

INDIA.

Investigations.—The specimens accompanying the third and fourth reports of the Gwalior Mineral Survey were examined and a report forwarded to the Government of that State; the specimens accompanying the fifth report were under examination at the close of the year. Among the more interesting Indian minerals examined were samples of Gwalior mica, of the ruby tinted muscovite variety, which were well trimmed and in good condition, and approached in appearance the well-known Bengal ruby mica. Commercial experts reported that under normal conditions they would find a ready sale in the London market. It was suggested that a trial shipment of this mica should be forwarded to London, and recommendations were made as to the best methods of trimming and packing the mica.

A sample of a green mineral pigment from Gwalior proved to be similar to the “terre verte” of Cyprus, previously examined and valued at the Imperial Institute.

Samples representing thirteen different varieties of cotton grown on the experimental farm at Akola, Berar, were examined. Most of them were rather too short in staple, coarse and rough, to be readily saleable in the Liverpool market, but three of them represented a style of cotton for which there is generally a good demand.

In this connection it may be mentioned that at the International Cotton and Fibres Exhibition which was held in London in the summer of 1914 under the presidency of Professor Dunstan, Director of the Imperial Institute, a silver trophy was offered by the President for the best sample of British-grown cotton produced on a large scale. A number of competitors sent samples, and the award was made to the Akola farm for samples of Indian-grown Buri cotton.

Other Indian fibres which were dealt with during the year were plantain, jute, Sida, *Urena lobata*, Ak (*Calotropis* sp.), and *Sterculia* sp.

Two samples of *Castilloa* rubber, one from male and the other from female trees grown in the Bassein Botanical Garden were examined. The former contained 81·6 per cent. of caoutchouc and 12·4 per cent. of resin, expressed on the dry rubber, and showed fairly good physical properties. The other sample was less satisfactory in physical properties, contained only 60·9 per cent. of caoutchouc, and as much as 34·3 per cent. of resin, expressed on the dry rubber.

The oil and the residual cake obtained from the seeds of *Schleichera trijuga* were examined. The oil contained traces of prussic acid and would therefore not be suitable for edible purposes, though it could be used in admixture with other fatty materials for soap making; the cake also yielded prussic acid and was therefore unsuitable for use as a feeding stuff; it had only a low manurial value.

A trial consignment of sandalwood from Coorg was sold through brokers in London, and realised £80 per ton.

Work was continued on the question of improving the quality of the Indian barley imported into the United Kingdom for malting purposes (cf. Annual Report for 1913 [Cd. 7622-7], p. 36), in association with expert referees, and the results of analyses of thirty-one samples of barley from the Punjab were forwarded to India.

Twenty-three commercial samples of maize from various parts of the world, as marketed in London, were supplied to the Department of Agriculture, Burma, for trial cultivation.

A report was made on "White Burley" tobacco grown at the Nadiad Government Farm, Bombay. The tobacco appeared to have been well grown and prepared, but it burned badly and the composition of its ash was unsatisfactory. It could be used for blending with other tobaccos in the manufacture of cheap smoking mixtures, but would probably not command more than 3½d. to 4d. per lb. in London.

At the request of the Indian Department of Forests an attempt was made to find a market for Burmese black lacquer ("thitsi.") Most of the firms consulted were of opinion that the manufacture of lacquer ware is not likely to develop largely in the United Kingdom. Certain firms engaged in the production of such ware were of opinion that this material could be used in place of the Chinese lacquer.

A report on the oleo-resin (crude turpentine) of *Pinus longifolia* was furnished to the Forest Chemist, Dehra Dun.

Information was supplied to the Divisional Forest Officer, Travancore, on the results of therapeutical trials with the oleo-resin of *Hardwickia pinnata*.

The export and marketing of Indian opium has been the subject of correspondence with the India Office, and a memorandum on the subject was forwarded to the Indian Government.

Two samples of flower heads of *Artemisia* spp. and one of *Tanacetum* sp. were examined for santonin, which was found to be absent from all the specimens.

The question of the exploitation of the mangrove forests of Arakan was dealt with for the Indian Forest Department with a view to inducing British firms to install plant there for mangrove cutch manufacture.

A number of other Indian plant products were dealt with, the following being amongst the more important: Cardamom fruits, chaulmoogra oil, Dhupa seeds (*Vateria indica*), Nahar seeds (*Mesua ferrea*), and mango pulp.

Materials from India that were under investigation at the close of the year included samples of native beans and of Madagascar beans from Burma, "turpentine oil" and resin from *Boswellia serrata*, vetiver roots, deodar oil, opium, aconites and *Schleichera trijuga* seeds.

Enquiries.—A large number of enquiries relating to Indian products were dealt with. Information was furnished to the Government of Madras regarding the market for sandalwood and the market conditions for various Indian products, the trade in which was adversely affected by the war, including ground nuts, hides and skins, coir rope and matting, palmyra fibre, senna, pepper, and lac. Information was also supplied to Government officials on beeswax, the deodorisation of fish oils, and the hydrogenation of oils. Another important subject which occupied the attention of the Bureau was the antiseptic thymol, the manufacture of which had been practically confined to Germany, notwithstanding the fact that ajowan seeds, the oil from which is almost the sole source of commercial thymol, are produced entirely in India. No further supplies of thymol being forthcoming from Germany owing to the war, the price had increased almost eight-fold in September, 1914. The Technical Information Bureau has supplied information as to the method of preparation of thymol to several British firms contemplating its manufacture, and has placed them in communication with Indian exporters of the seed. There is reason to hope that the United Kingdom may now become the chief centre for the manufacture of this antiseptic.

Among the other subjects of enquiries relating to India dealt with by the Technical Information Bureau were monazite sand, ground nuts, mowra oil, safflower oil, fish oils, Calotropis floss, and bristles for brush-making. Special work was carried out in connection with Indian copra on the same lines as in the case of the Ceylon product (see pages 9-10).

Exhibits.—The arrangement of a number of the larger groups of economic products displayed in the East Gallery of the Indian Section of the Public Exhibition Galleries, notably the gums and resins, oils and oil-seeds, and drugs, has been improved, and new labels added. A coloured diagram showing the quantities of tea annually exported from the principal tea-producing countries of the world has been prepared. The new materials placed on exhibition during the year include cottons, Burmese timbers, Indian condiments, minerals from

Gwalior, examples of Chanderi muslins, a collection of painted boxes from Gwalior and a modern Gwalior carpet. Photographs obtained in India by the Director of the Imperial Institute have been hung in the Pavilion, and duplicates of the photographs in the Madras Museum, illustrating crops and native crafts, have also been received. A number of silver and silver-gilt caskets, lent by Their Majesties the King and Queen, have been added to the Royal presents exhibited in the Indian Pavilion.

Specimens of Indian economic products were supplied to a number of applicants, and collections of Indian materials were sent to various educational institutions, including the Hong Kong University.

A number of school parties visited the Section under the guidance of the Technical Superintendent.

The Director of the Imperial Institute visited the principal centres of agricultural and commercial production in India in the early part of 1914.

CEYLON.

Investigations.—A large number of mineral specimens accompanying interim reports from the officers of the Ceylon Mineral Survey were examined, and reports on the results forwarded to Ceylon. Further specimens from the Survey were being examined at the end of the year.

A sample of Ceylon coca leaves of Truxillo type contained 0·67 per cent. of ether-soluble alkaloids, and was valued at about 4d. per lb. in London, *ex* warehouse (January, 1914). The leaves of *Adhatoda vasica* were under examination at the close of the year.

Seeds of "wild croton" (*Jatropha glandulifera*) were found to yield 43·8 per cent. of oil, similar in type to that furnished by the better known seeds of *Jatropha Curcas*.

A report was furnished on samples of cigars made from native-grown Jaffna tobacco, and a sample of tobacco was under investigation at the end of the year.

As indicated in the Report for 1913 a joint scheme of rubber research has been inaugurated by the Rubber Research Committee of Ceylon and the Imperial Institute.

In connection with that scheme a rubber-testing laboratory has been installed at the Imperial Institute and this was fully described and illustrated in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute" (Vol. xii. (1914), No. 1, p. 76), to which reference should be made for details.

Considerable progress was made with this scheme of work in 1914, and a number of interesting results were obtained and reported to Ceylon.

Enquiries.—The most important enquiry dealt with for Ceylon was the question of finding a market for the large quantity of copra which that Colony used to export to Germany and Austria-Hungary. Notices were issued to the Press and a circular on new markets for copra was distributed widely to manufacturers, merchants, and others. Many firms in the United Kingdom were put into communication with Ceylon exporters, and several oil-mills in this country are now engaged

in the manufacture of coconut oil and cake. That this action was successful is indicated by the fact that the shipments of copra from Ceylon to the United Kingdom during the last five months of 1914 amounted to 28,000 tons, as against 75 tons during the whole of 1913. (Similar action was taken with reference to the copra industries of India and the Federated Malay States.)

Among other Ceylon products which were the subjects of enquiries dealt with during the year were thorium minerals, kapok, tea, coffee, rubber, rubber-seed oil, tobacco, coca leaves, and the manufacture of acetic acid for the coagulation of rubber latex.

Exhibits.—The work done in the Ceylon Section of the Public Exhibition Galleries during the year has been chiefly concerned with the decoration and arrangement of the new Ceylon Pavilion, which was opened on the occasion of the reception, by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, of the delegates to the Third International Congress of Tropical Agriculture, held on the 23rd June, 1914. Ceylon tea was served daily during the summer months. The exhibits arranged in the Pavilion include a collection of Sinhalese art-ware and the Fox-Pitt loan collection of water colour sketches transferred from the Ceylon Court; a number of antique Kandyan lamps and other examples of native art work, obtained in Ceylon by the Director of the Imperial Institute; a collection of coloured drawings of the fish of Ceylon; photographs of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya; and coloured transparencies illustrating the tea industry. A large native painting on cloth has been mounted to form a dividing screen for the Pavilion.

New exhibits received for the Court comprise desiccated coconut and other coconut palm products, cocoa, cotton, fibres, spices, plumbago, and photographs. Samples of palm sugars, beeswax, sedges used in mat-making, and a carved satin-wood bowl have also been received.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS AND FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

Investigations.—The nuts of *Canarium commune* and *C. rufum*, which have been suggested as almond substitutes, were examined. The kernels of both species have high food values, being especially rich in fat, of which they contain 72·3 and 70·5 per cent. respectively. The proportion of shell to kernel is however high, and the shell is hard and difficult to break.

At the close of the year camphor oil was under investigation.

Enquiries.—Information was supplied on the subject of rattan canes. Efforts were made to create a larger market in the United Kingdom for copra, and the names of shippers from the Federated Malay States were given to a number of enquirers. Reference to this work has been made already in the section on Ceylon.

Exhibits.—The readjustment of space necessitated by the refitting of the British Malaya Court during 1913 has been completed; the Court now occupies space at the north end of the East Gallery and at the east end of the North Gallery. Two coloured diagrams illustrating the export of rubber and tin have been prepared. The new

exhibits received included tapioca, sago, coffee, gambier, sugar, spices, rattans, and timbers, in addition to photographs. It is hoped to add further samples of Straits Settlements produce and photographs of Singapore Harbour and of towns and buildings in the Straits Settlements.

HONG KONG.

Investigations.—A report was furnished on a sample of camphor oil. The oil differed considerably from the Japanese white and red camphor oils of commerce. Its value in European markets would probably be about 27s. 6d. per cwt. (May, 1914).

Enquiries.—Information on bristles for brush-making was supplied by the Technical Information Bureau.

Exhibits.—A large scale map of the Colony has been framed and hung in the Hong Kong Court. New printed labels have been added and existing labels revised. Samples of Chinese products exhibited in the Court and information regarding them have been supplied to enquirers.

NIGERIA.

Investigations.—The examination of the specimens collected in the Southern Provinces by the mineral survey was completed, and the Report on the Work of the Survey during 1913 was issued by the Colonial Office in the Miscellaneous Series of Colonial Reports (No. 89) [Cd. 7567]. In addition, a second special report on the Udi-Okwoga coalfield was forwarded to the Colonial Office.

A specimen of impure galena from the Ogoja district was found to contain 40·94 per cent. of lead, and 5 dwts. of silver per ton, with traces of copper and zinc. The quantity of silver present was too small to enhance the value of the ore, and it appeared doubtful whether ore of this quality could be profitably exported. Previous samples of lead ores from the Ogoja district have however contained much more silver than the present specimen, and an examination of the district by experts was recommended in order to determine the extent of the deposits and the average quality of the ore.

Specimens of schist, kaolin, ferruginous clay, ironstone, sand and fossils were also examined, and at the close of the year specimens of various other minerals were under investigation.

Two samples of soil from the Government cotton farm at Maigana, near Zaria, and two from the Aguji farm, both in the Northern Provinces, and three samples from the Experiment Station at Ibadan were examined, and suggestions were made for their improvement.

Three samples of cotton grown at the Maigana cotton farm during the season 1913–1914 were of fairly good strength and of good quality, and consignments of similar cotton would be readily saleable. Reports were also furnished on four samples of indigenous cottons. Three of these were of good, useful quality but the fourth was very rough and therefore less valuable.

A sample of wild silk from the Sokoto Province consisted of cocoon colonies, resembling specimens of *Anaphe Moloneyi* from Nigeria previously examined at the Imperial Institute.

A report was furnished on six samples of millet and five of guinea corn plants from Lokoja; the samples represented the plants at various stages of growth and were examined in continuation of an investigation into the occurrence of cyanogenetic glucosides in these cereal grasses. The results of the investigation have been published in a paper by Dr. J. R. Furlong of the Scientific and Technical Research Department Staff (*The Analyst*, 1914, Vol. 39, p. 430).

In continuation of the investigation of methods of preventing the attack of West African maize by weevils, samples of maize treated by various methods in Nigeria were examined and reported on.

A trial sale consignment of three grades of Kol-kol gum (*Acacia Senegal*) from the Northern Provinces was received. The gum was of very good quality as regards colour, solubility, and adhesive properties, the three grades differing mainly in the size of the fragments. The gum was sold through merchants in London in one lot at 30s. per cwt. Recommendations were made as to the better preparation and packing of the gum for the market.

A report was also furnished on a number of gums and herbarium specimens of gum-yielding trees, in connection with the general question of determining the identity of the gum-yielding species of Nigeria.

Samples of cocoa, prepared experimentally in Nigeria to test the relative advantages of artificial drying and sun-drying, were examined and valued. All the samples were of very good quality and of normal composition. There was little difference between the cocoas dried by the two methods. The results, which on the whole were in favour of at least partial sun-drying, are therefore not finally conclusive. Two further samples, prepared by heating the beans in a rotary dryer without previous fermentation, exhibited the usual characters of unfermented cocoa. They were of good quality for this type of cocoa but would not realise such good prices as the fermented beans.

Amongst other plants and plant products from Nigeria dealt with during the year were: Para rubber, palm kernels, "Sese" beans, "Girigiri" bean seeds (probably *Vigna* sp.), the "Agwa" plant (*Strophanthus hispidus*), the "Garmain" plant (*Sida cordifolia*), plants used in native medicine, and a fungus attacking Para rubber trees.

Material from Nigeria under examination at the end of the year included rubber, rubber-seed oil, palm nut shells, "Gigeya" plant and ostrich feathers.

Enquiries.—Among the Nigerian products which were the subjects of enquiries dealt with were palm oil, palm kernels, copra and coconut oil, the occurrence of so-called "potash" salts in the Protectorate, grain-drying and the destruction of weevils in grain.

In view of the closing of the German markets owing to the war, an effort was made to find an outlet for British West African palm kernels. The attention of oil-seed crushers and others in the United Kingdom was directed to this matter and a statement giving full particulars of the German palm kernel industry was published in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," Vol. xii. (1914), No. 3, p. 458. As a result, the manufacture of palm kernel oil and cake is now being carried on by several oil mills in the United Kingdom. Further work on this subject was in active progress at the end of the year.

Exhibits.—Work during the year has been mainly concerned with the amalgamation of the Southern and Northern Nigeria Courts, and the incorporation of new exhibits. The latter comprise oil-palm products, shea butter, ground nuts, rubbers, cotton, fibres, tsamia silk, cocoa, coffee, native foodstuffs, gums, hides and skins. A large picture of Port Harcourt has been glazed and hung in the Court. At the request of the Nigerian Government a representative collection of British products manufactured wholly or partly from Nigerian produce was prepared for exhibition in the Nigerian section of the Fourth International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition. Most of these exhibits, and also exhibits of Nigerian produce, were transferred to the Imperial Institute at the conclusion of the Exhibition and have been incorporated in the Court as far as possible. The utility and appearance of the Court have been much enhanced by the new exhibits and equipment received.

In view of the importance attached to the question of finding a market for the large quantities of palm kernels hitherto exported to Germany (see above) a special exhibit illustrating the vegetable oil resources of Nigeria was arranged in the centre of the Court, and has been of great service to enquirers.

GOLD COAST.

Investigations.—A sample of smoked Para rubber prepared in biscuit form from trees 13 years old growing at Aburi was examined. The dry rubber contained 94·1 per cent. of caoutchouc and its physical properties were very satisfactory. A sample of smoked Funtumia rubber, prepared from trees about nine years old growing at Aburi, consisted of thin, irregular, brown biscuits. The dry rubber contained only 81·7 per cent. of caoutchouc, but the physical properties were very good.

Two samples of beans were received during the year and were identified at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, as *Canavalia obtusifolia* and *C. ensiformis* respectively. Both beans were shown by analysis to have a fairly high food value and would probably be of value as a feeding stuff for cattle.

Two specimens of copal from the Dunkwa district consisted of large pieces of clean, hard, transparent resin, one being of a pale yellow tint and the other slightly darker. They yielded varnishes of good quality and were similar to samples of Gold Coast copal previously examined at the Imperial Institute.

Among other products from the Gold Coast dealt with during the year were cocoa-pod fibre, the oil-seeds “Abeko” or “Abaku” nuts (*Dumoria Heckeli*) and “Owere” seeds (*Monodora Myristica*).

Materials from the Gold Coast under investigation at the end of the year included an extensive series of minerals collected by the Geological Survey of the Gold Coast, a further sample of “Owere” seed, and *Raphia vinifera* fruits.

Enquiries.—Information was supplied in answer to a number of enquiries on various Gold Coast products, including palm oil, palm kernels, palm kernel oil, copra, and coconut oil. A statement referring to the work done in connection with palm kernels is given on page 12.

Exhibits.—Work done in the Gold Coast Court has been concerned mainly with an improvement in the arrangement of the present exhibits so far as the available show-cases will permit.

SIERRA LEONE.

Investigations.—Seven soils from the Agricultural Experimental Farm, Jala, were reported on. The samples included soils from the cocoa and kola plantations, from plots on which rice and ground nuts had been grown, and from bush-land. Most of the soils were deficient in lime and phosphoric acid, and appropriate manurial treatment was suggested.

A sample of soil was under examination at the end of the year, as well as roots of the “bitter leaf tree.”

Enquiries.—Among subjects of interest to Sierra Leone on which information was furnished to enquirers during the year were palm oil and palm kernels. Special action was taken with reference to palm kernels. (See page 12.)

Exhibits.—Considerable improvements have been effected in the Sierra Leone Court during the year. A consignment of samples intended for the Fourth International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition was transferred to the Court, and these have been displayed so far as is possible with the show cases available.

GAMBIA.

Enquiries.—During the year the Technical Information Bureau took action with a view to finding fresh markets for certain products from British West Africa, the disposal of which had been interfered with by the outbreak of the war (see page 4), and two of the products dealt with, viz., ground nuts and palm kernels, are largely represented in the export trade of the Gambia. As a result of this action, palm kernels, formerly chiefly exported to Germany, are now being treated on a large scale by oil-seed crushers in the United Kingdom. Similar action was also taken with reference to ground nuts, which form the chief export from this Colony. The work on ground nuts was still in progress at the close of the year.

Exhibits.—The improvements effected in neighbouring West African Courts necessitated some re-arrangement of the Gambia exhibits. Small stands and other fittings have been added and improved descriptive labels for the products printed.

EGYPT.

Investigations.—A large number of samples of cotton were examined and reported on during the year. Ten samples representing earlier and later pickings of different cottons, were of special interest. They were all of satisfactory quality, though the later pickings of each cotton were somewhat inferior to the earlier pickings.

Twenty-two specimens, representing the results of selection experiments, and fifty-six obtained in a series of manurial experiments, were also examined and reported on.

Three samples of Sisal hemp were of excellent quality, being comparable with the highest grades of commercial Sisal hemp, and represented fibre which would be readily saleable in large quantities.

Three samples of wheat were of qualities suitable for this market.

A report was furnished on the volatile oil obtained from *Santolina Chamaecyparissus*. Specimens of Egyptian henbane (*Hyoscyamus muticus*) and stramonium were under examination at the end of the year.

Enquiries.—Information was supplied as to market conditions in the United Kingdom for the following Egyptian products:—Sisal hemp, wheat, maize, barley, rice, lentils, sesame, ground nuts, and apricot kernels.

A great deal of attention has also been given to the question of creating a market in the United Kingdom for a number of important Egyptian drugs, the trade in which had been allowed to drift into the hands of German merchants before the war. Among these are senna and Egyptian henbane. From the latter the alkaloids atropine and hyoscyamine are prepared. British chemical manufacturers have now been placed in touch with Egyptian exporters of henbane, and it is anticipated that the manufacture of these alkaloids, hitherto mostly carried on in Germany, will be extended in the United Kingdom.

A number of other matters relating to Egypt were dealt with, among which drugs and indigo may be mentioned.

ANGLO-EGYPTIAN SUDAN.

Investigations.—Fifty-one samples of different varieties of Sudan cotton were examined. The cottons, which represented both Egyptian and American varieties, were all of good quality.

A sample of kapok (*Eriodendron anfractuosum*) consisted of clean, lustrous floss, comparing favourably with a standard commercial sample of Java kapok. A specimen of Ushar floss (*Calotropis procera*) was examined and submitted to commercial experts, who reported that it should be possible to dispose of consignments at satisfactory prices. Information was also supplied as to possible uses for this material.

Leaves of the dom palm (*Hyphaene thebaica*) were examined, and it was found that a very satisfactory paper could be made from them. The leaves were also tried by a manufacturer as a material for the production of braiding for straw hats; he reported that they were satisfactory for that purpose, but that the manufacture of braid from them would only be practicable if labour and other conditions would allow of its being undertaken as a local industry in the Sudan. Enquiries on this point are still in progress.

A trial sale consignment of "Sant" pods (*Acacia arabica*) was sold at £7 per ton (February, 1914) and there is little doubt that a regular market could be found in the United Kingdom for this product as a tanning material.

A trial consignment of Ceara and Landolphia rubbers was sold through brokers at 1s. 9½d. per lb. with fine hard Para at 3s. 0½d., and first quality plantation Para at 2s. 4¾d. per lb.

Other materials from the Sudan dealt with during the year included sugar-cane, frankincense, and pearl shells; a supply of Sudan pearls was being dealt with at the close of the year, and volatile oil from *Cymbopogon senaarensis* grass was being fully examined.

Enquiries.—Information was supplied to enquirers regarding a number of Sudan products, including senna, gums, sant pods and other tanning materials, ground nuts, dura, hides, and skins. The attention of British merchants and manufacturers was drawn, by means of a notice issued to the press, to a number of Sudan products capable of replacing similar materials, the supply of which from the usual sources had become restricted owing to the war. The interest of a number of firms in the United Kingdom was aroused and several, at their request, were placed in communication with exporters in the Sudan. It is understood that this action has already resulted in increased trade in Sudan produce with the United Kingdom.

Exhibits.—The re-organisation and development of the Sudan Court has been proceeded with. A series of photographic transparencies has been fitted in the windows of the Court and a number of large photographic pictures framed and glazed have been added. The scale-model of Port Sudan has been completed and placed in the centre of the Court.

The Sudan Government exhibit at the Fourth Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition has been installed in the Court.

The glazed screen carrying the plans of Khartoum and Omdurman was lent to the Victoria League for display at a Town Planning Exhibition held at the Imperial Institute during May. A collection of typical Sudan products was prepared for exhibition at the Bristol International Exhibition, 1914.

SOMALILAND.

Investigations.—Among the Somaliland products examined were crude petroleum, a series of minerals, specimens of *Calotropis procera* and *Acacia arabica*, gum from the last-named plant, and bast fibre from the Galol acacia.

At the close of the year samples of salt were under examination.

Enquiries.—Information was supplied regarding the cultivation of date palms.

Exhibits.—A case containing a number of samples of Somaliland produce was in course of arrangement at the end of the year.

UGANDA.

Investigations.—Five samples of unginned improved American Upland cottons, grown at the Government Experimental Farm, Kadunguru, were of very promising quality, being all clean, of pale cream colour, lustrous and very soft.

A sample of fibre of the jute type was of short staple and comparatively low value. Information was supplied as to the preparation of fibre of this type. Two samples of other fibres and of ropes made from them were also examined.

A sample of tea grown and prepared on the Government Plantation at Kampala was found to be rich in caffeine, tannin, and extractive matter, and in that respect to resemble Indian rather than China tea. It yielded a liquor of fair strength, but of very light colour and too thin to attract most buyers in London. Two better prepared samples were received later in the year. These yielded liquors of better colour though still showing lack of strength.

Other products from Uganda dealt with during the year were a supposed wild coffee, lac produced by the scale insect, *Tachardia decorella*, a supposed gum, native drugs, and fungoid diseases of rubber and cocoa trees.

Enquiries.—Among the Uganda products regarding which enquiries were answered were coffee, cocoa, senna, tobacco, and “elephant grass.”

Exhibits.—In the Uganda Court a large scale map and statistical board have been placed on exhibition. New descriptive labels have been added and an improvement effected in the general arrangement of the exhibits.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Investigations.—Twenty-four samples of soils from Jubaland were examined and reported on. Recommendations were made as to suitable manuring and treatment, and information was supplied relating to irrigation and to the growing of various crops on the lands represented by the soils.

Four samples of flax from the Experimental Farm, Kabete, were reported on. One was of good quality, closely resembling the standard European varieties in chemical composition and behaviour. The other three samples represented fibre from straw—(1) not laid by rain, (2) not badly laid by rain, and (3) badly laid by rain. All three were regarded as superior to Russian flaxes, and more comparable with the Belgian kinds.

Nine samples of tobacco, of which seven were grown at Kabete and two at Kibwezi, were examined. They were all of promising quality for the product of a first experiment. Seven other samples of tobacco, grown from South African seed, were examined and found to be mostly of poor burning quality, and not of a type to suit this market.

Four samples of black wattle bark received from the Acting Conservator of Forests, Nairobi, were somewhat thin and contained from 28.6 to 40.4 per cent. of tannin.

Other subjects dealt with during the year were: Caravonica cotton, beans, citrus fruit, coffee, and scented roots. An investigation of the seeds of *Croton Elliottianus* was in progress at the end of the year.

Enquiries.—Information was supplied to enquirers on the subjects of citrus cultivation, and conditions of land sales in the Protectorate.

Exhibits.—A collection of the products of the Protectorate has been received from the Fourth International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition, but a portion only of the new material has been placed on exhibition owing to want of show-cases. A new small scale map of the Protectorate has been added.

ZANZIBAR AND PEMBA.

Investigations.—Four samples of cloves of various degrees of maturity and from trees of various ages, two samples of clove stems and one of “mother-of-cloves,” were examined and reported on. The cloves yielded from 17·4 to 19·2 per cent. of oil of cloves, the stems 5·9 and 6·3 per cent., and the “mother-of-cloves” (fruits) 6·5 per cent. All the samples were stated by brokers to be of good quality.

A small trial consignment of coir matting and rope made in Zanzibar was sold in London, on behalf of the Governor of Prisons.

Enquiries.—Information regarding millet in Zanzibar was supplied.

Exhibits.—The Court has been re-organised during the past year in order to accommodate the new samples available.

NYASALAND.

Investigations.—Thirty-one samples of soil from various localities in the plain between Lake Shirwa and Zomba Mountain were examined and reported on with reference to their suitability for cotton and tobacco cultivation. Four samples of tobacco soils from the Chiranga, Ntwonde, Naisi and Mlungusi estates were also examined.

A number of minerals from the Protectorate were reported on.

Seven samples of cotton were on the whole of fairly good quality but contained some weak, unripe fibre, probably as a result of having been picked before complete maturity.

Two samples of broom corn “brush” grown on the Government Farm, Zomba, were of a quality suitable for the manufacture of brooms. Recommendations were made for the better preparation of the product for this market.

Enquiries.—The question of the marketing of Nyasaland tobacco was dealt with. A large amount of special information was collected on this subject and a Conference was held at the Imperial Institute, at which a number of matters were discussed, relating to the use of Nyasaland tobacco in the United Kingdom and elsewhere, the best methods of marketing the product, dock and warehouse charges on Nyasaland tobacco, the deterioration of the tobacco through unduly long storage in warehouses, the grading and packing of the product in the Protectorate, and the improvement of the crops. A memorandum summarising the information collected by the Imperial Institute and the results of this Conference was forwarded to the Government of Nyasaland.

At the suggestion of the Imperial Institute the War Office has altered the specification for the tobacco supplied to the Army whereby tobacco of satisfactory quality grown from American seed in the British Colonies and Protectorates can be used. As a result of this work the market for Nyasaland tobacco in the United Kingdom has been extended considerably.

Exhibits.—The re-organisation of the Nyasaland Court has been completed. Cases have been arranged to illustrate the leading industries of the Colony. Photographs have been mounted and placed on exhibition. Descriptive labels have been printed for the exhibits. A large wall-map of the Protectorate is displayed.

RHODESIA.

Investigations.—Three samples of chrysotile asbestos from Southern Rhodesia were received, two from the Victoria district and one from the Belingwe district. The two former consisted of somewhat short fibre, but the third was longer. It was pointed out that the value of the material could be enhanced by hand-picking and grading.

A sample of tantalum ore from the Victoria district was examined and information as to the conditions of the market for this material was furnished.

Two samples of iron ore from Southern Rhodesia were analysed; one was of excellent quality, consisting of almost pure magnetic oxide of iron, while the other contained too high a percentage of silica to be of value as an iron ore for export. Minerals from the neighbourhood of the Kafue River were also reported on.

Information was furnished regarding Ceara rubber and a sample of "Tshizimboti rubber" was examined. The latter is the coagulated latex of *Euphorbia* sp.; it was found to contain a large proportion of resin and insoluble matter, and only 8.1 per cent. of caoutchouc expressed on the dry material, and was therefore of small value.

Three samples of tobacco were well grown and cured, and represented leaf which could be used for blending in pipe or cigarette tobacco.

A sample of ground nut kernels from Northern Rhodesia was of very good quality and yielded 44.2 per cent. of oil.

Among other Rhodesian products examined during the year were: *Canavalia obtusifolia* beans, buckwheat, chillies, the fibre-plant *Buphane disticha*, *Strophanthus* seed, papain and "Ululu" or "Uwa" plant (*Tephrosia Vogellii*).

At the close of the year a number of fibres and fibre-yielding plants were under examination, including flax, Deccan hemp (*Hibiscus cannabinus*), Sunn hemp (*Crotalaria juncea*), Mauritius hemp (*Furcraea gigantea*), and baobab fibre (*Adansonia digitata*).

Enquiries.—Information on soda alum was supplied in connection with the discovery of a deposit of that material in Northern Rhodesia. Enquiries relating to markets for ground nuts and to the treatment of scale of citrus trees were also dealt with.

Exhibits.—New labels have been added to the exhibits in the Rhodesia Court and the map brought up to date in regard to railway extensions.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Investigations.—A specimen of crocidolite asbestos was examined, the fibres of which measured from $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, and were tough and suitable for textile use.

A sample of kaolin was submitted to analysis and technical trial. It produced satisfactory tiles, and though suitable for local use could probably not be exported in competition with Cornish clay. A further specimen of kaolin was being examined at the end of the year.

A specimen of coal from Cape Province consisted of anthracite of good quality and of high calorific value.

Samples of shale and limestone sand from the same Province were also dealt with.

A hybrid cotton grown on the Government experimental farm at Rustenburg was of excellent appearance and quality, but rather soft and not very strong.

Other products used or proposed to be used as sources of textile materials, which were dealt with during the year, included the "gift-bol" plant (*Buphane disticha*), the "milk-bosch" plant (*Asclepias fruticosa*), and a sample of silk from the Transvaal.

A sample of "Tambookie" grass was found to give a good yield of pulp, which was easily bleached to a pure white product, and yielded paper of satisfactory quality. The grass would probably be worth about £4 per ton in the United Kingdom (July, 1914), but it was considered that it would be more remunerative to convert the grass into "half-stuff" in South Africa, and either to ship this "half-stuff" to Europe or to utilise it locally in the manufacture of paper. This report, on publication in South Africa, attracted much attention, and a number of enquiries were subsequently received and dealt with regarding the cutting of the grass, preparation of "half-stuff" and paper-making generally.

A sample of papyrus grass from Zululand was also examined as a paper-making material. It produced a satisfactory paper of good strength, but would probably not realise more than about £3 per ton in the United Kingdom (July, 1914). As this price was not likely to be profitable to exporters the conversion of the grass into "half-stuff" or paper in South Africa for export was suggested.

A sample of the latex of *Euphorbia Tirucalli*, collected in Natal, contained 15.7 per cent. of caoutchouc and 82.1 per cent. of resin expressed on the dry material. Information was supplied as to the method of treating this material and as to its marketing and uses.

The leaves of *Barosma venusta* were examined, and it was found that they could not be used medicinally as a substitute for the ordinary buchu of commerce, *Barosma betulina*. The leaves yielded 2 per cent. of volatile oil, which differed in important respects from that obtained from buchu leaves. The results of the investigations were communicated to the Chemical Society of London by Dr. E. Gouling and Mr. O. D. Roberts of the Scientific and Technical Research Department Staff (Transactions of the Chemical Society, 1914, Vol. 105, p. 2613).

A sample of ginger from Natal was of good quality and was valued at about £20 per ton (May, 1914). Information was supplied, and recommendations were made, as to the better preparation of the material.

Samples of the fruit and bark of the hard pear tree (*Strychnos Henningsii*) were found to contain an alkaloid, the bark yielding 4.8 per cent., the kernels 4.0 per cent., and the husks 0.16 per cent. Further work on the alkaloid was in progress at the end of the year.

The results of an examination of Cape Slangkop (*Ornithoglossum glaucum*), which is poisonous to stock in South Africa, were summarised in a report. The poisonous constituent was isolated both from the bulbs and the leaves, and physiological trials showed it to possess a typical digitalis action.

A report was furnished on investigations carried out by Professor Adrian Brown and Mr. W. C. Till, of Birmingham University, at the request of the Imperial Institute, on the fermentative properties of the roots of *Mesembryanthemum Mahoni*.

Among other products examined were the "Ntsema" root used by natives in the preparation of the liquor called "Kali," "Rhenoster Bos" (*Elytropappus rhinocerotis*) and the fruits of the "Mopane" tree (*Copaifera Mopane*). A report was furnished on a pest attacking eucalyptus trees.

At the close of the year a number of vegetable products were under examination, including maize, banana stems, the wood of *Buxus Macowani*, the barks of *Chrysophyllum viridifolium*, *Gonioma Kamassi* and *Bersama Tysoniana*, "Sherungulu" tubers, *Urginea Burkei* bulbs, the leaves and stems of *Acokanthera venenata*, the leaves of *Dichapetalum cymosum* and the plants *Crotalaria Burkeana* and *Homeria pallida*.

Enquiries.—A memorandum was furnished to the Union Government on the manufacture of paper from maize stalks. Among other subjects on which information was supplied were: diamond deposits, ramie fibre, the use of *Hibiscus cannabinus* and *Sida rhombifolia* fibres as substitutes for jute, gambier (*terra japonica*) and the manufacture of tomato pulp.

Exhibits.—The new exhibits in the Union of South Africa Court, received through the Trades Commissioner in London, include maize, jiba and kaffir corn (Government standard grades), wines, wattle bark (Government standard grades), aloe fibre, beans, peas, cotton, ground nuts, fodder, sunflower seed, hemp seed, linseed, plums, pineapples, preserved fruits, jams, tinned lobster, wool, mohair, whalebone and ostrich feathers. In order to display these samples it was necessary to effect a partial re-arrangement of the Court, and owing to insufficient show-case accommodation, to withdraw from exhibition a considerable number of samples previously in the Court. The most noticeable of the new exhibits is a collection of ostrich feathers.

A new large scale map of the "Union of South Africa, showing adjacent Territories" is in preparation. The existing maps have been improved and brought up to date. Specimens of rubber and rubber-vines were lent to the Trades Commissioner for display at the Fourth International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition. Samples of Kelsey plums were prepared for exhibition at the office of the Trades Commissioner.

ST. HELENA.

A memorandum was furnished on the question of the proposed cultivation of flax and hemp on the Island; information relating to the cultivation of these plants, the preparation of the fibres, and market conditions affecting them, was supplied.

MAURITIUS.

Investigations.—A sample of ylang ylang oil experimentally produced in the Island was of pleasant odour, but had somewhat abnormal chemical characteristics, and would probably not command a higher price than 3s. to 4s. per ounce, with best Manila ylang ylang oil, at 12s. to 13s. per ounce.

Two samples of clove oil and three of clove leaf oil, although somewhat inferior in colour and aroma to the best clove oils distilled in the United Kingdom, were of good quality, containing a high percentage of eugenol, and would find a ready sale in Europe, for the preparation of vanillin, at a price slightly below that of the best clove oil.

Three samples of sandalwood oil were of good quality, but rather dark in colour. The oils would be readily saleable in Europe at prices somewhat below those of English distilled sandalwood oil.

A sample of the seeds of *Canarium colophania* contained kernels of high food value, but owing to the thickness and extreme hardness of the shells they are not likely to be of commercial value for export.

Advice and assistance were given relating to the purchase in London of automatic petrol gas-making plant for use in the laboratories of the Department of Agriculture, and the plant was inspected before its despatch to Mauritius.

Material from Mauritius under examination at the close of the year included camphor oils, and the seeds of *Quisqualis indica* and *Combretum comosum*.

Enquiries.—Enquiries were dealt with on the subjects of Mauritius hemp and the soil of the island.

Exhibits.—New fittings have been constructed in the Mauritius Court and the exhibits arranged to better advantage.

A large photographic album has been made to contain a series of photographs copied, at the request of the Colonial Government, from negatives sent to the Imperial Institute by the Government. The album (containing about 100 photographs) has been sent to Mauritius. A further set of the prints is exhibited in the Court.

SEYCHELLES.

Investigations.—A head of palm fruits consisted of fruits of the ordinary thick-shelled variety, which closely resembled the “Ak-por-jub” variety from Nigeria in quality (*cf.* “Bulletin of the Imperial Institute,” Vol. vii. (1909), No. 4, p. 376).

A sample of ylang ylang oil from Seychelles resembled first grade Manila ylang ylang oil in chemical and physical characteristics, but its odour was pronounced by experts to be not quite so good.

Exhibits.—The arrangement of the exhibits in the Seychelles Court has been improved by the construction of new fittings; the timber specimens have been re-dressed.

CYPRUS.

Investigations.—A sample of salt from the Salt Lake at Larnaca was analysed and a report furnished to the High Commissioner. A memorandum on the refining and marketing of this salt was in preparation at the close of the year.

A sample of barley, forwarded from Cyprus with a view to ascertaining its suitability for malting, was regarded by commercial experts as of good quality for that purpose. It contained a low percentage of nitrogen, which is a good feature in malting barley.

Enquiries.—Among enquiries relating to Cyprus products which were dealt with, Cyprus origanum oil may be specially mentioned. This oil contains carvacrol, which possesses antiseptic properties similar to those of thymol, and it was suggested that in view of the shortage of the latter material owing to the war, carvacrol might be prepared from the oil for use as a substitute.

Exhibits.—The exhibits received during the year for the Cyprus Court comprised carobs, olive oil, cotton and cotton yarns, soy beans, orange oil, and silk. The representation of Cyprus products in the Court has been much improved by the addition of these samples.

CANADA.

Investigations.—The investigation of the poisonous properties of *Senecio Jacobaea*, the common ragwort, tansy ragwort, or staggerwort, was continued, and a report forwarded to the Veterinary Director-General, Ottawa. The plant was stated to be the cause of a kind of hepatic cirrhosis in cattle known in Nova Scotia as "Pictou disease," and its chemical and physiological examination was of particular interest in view of the investigations carried out at the Imperial Institute on the allied plant *Senecio latifolius*, which is the cause of the similar Molteno disease in South Africa. The latter plant yielded two new poisonous alkaloids. A poisonous alkaloid, apparently distinct from either of those obtained from *S. latifolius*, has also been isolated from *S. Jacobaea*. This alkaloid has been physiologically examined by Professor Cushny of University College, London, and found to be the cause of Pictou disease. (Cf. Annual Reports for 1909 [Cd. 4964-30] (p. 39), 1910 [Cd. 5467-23] (p. 36), and 1911 [Cd. 6007-37] (p. 40).)

A sample of supposed amber from the shores of one of the Canadian lakes was found to be a fossil resin, distinct from amber, and possibly suitable for use as a varnish resin. Its possibilities in this direction were under investigation at the end of the year.

In addition, a number of samples of Canadian minerals were examined in the course of the year.

Enquiries.—Among the most important Canadian subjects upon which information was supplied were: Molybdenite, market conditions affecting Canadian mica, and the cultivation of medicinal plants and of flax.

Exhibits.—The Canadian Section of the Public Exhibition Galleries is now arranged in the Western Arcade and North Gallery, the two collections being connected by a spacious new bridge completed in 1913. Following upon the improvements effected during 1912-13, including the renovation of the wall-cases in the agricultural portion, the installation of a large collection of fruits, and the provision of a mahogany wall-fitting for the map of Canada, the most important item completed during 1914 has been the redecoration of the Western Arcade, in which the greater part of the Canadian Section is arranged. Samples of cigar tobacco, grown at Kelowna, B.C., have been placed on exhibition.

The Canadian exhibits in the North Gallery need re-casing, and several additions to the Canadian Section are desirable.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Investigations.—Among the Newfoundland products examined during the year were oil shales and a number of other minerals of economic interest.

Enquiries.—Information was supplied on wood pulp manufacture, and on timbers of various kinds, in particular those suitable for pit-props and for the manufacture of matches.

Exhibits.—Work in connection with the Newfoundland Court has been chiefly concerned with the improvement in the arrangement of exhibits. The mineral collection is in process of re-arrangement and labelling; the large specimen of labradorite has been cut into two pieces, the surfaces of which have been polished.

Additional pictures and photographs have been added and new fittings provided. New labels have been printed and the large wall-map corrected; the large oil paintings occupying the north wall of the Court have been cleaned. The Court has been photographed, and framed enlargements, together with a framed photograph of the Imperial Institute, have been sent to the Colony for exhibition in the Government Museum. In view of commercial enquiries received, the Colonial Government has been asked to provide additional samples of Newfoundland timbers.

The Director of the Imperial Institute visited Newfoundland in the summer of 1914 and enquired into the mineral and other resources of the island.

WEST INDIES, INCLUDING BERMUDA AND BAHAMAS.

Investigations.—Three samples of Para rubber from Dominica were very satisfactory in chemical composition, containing 93·4 to 94·2 per cent. of caoutchouc, but were rather soft and weak.

A sample of Funtumia rubber from the same island contained only 84·6 per cent. of caoutchouc, the percentages of resin and protein being high, but it showed excellent physical properties.

Among other West Indian materials examined during the year were six minerals (Grenada), 11 samples of water (Bahamas), essential oils from *Ambrosia hispida* (Montserrat) and from ripe and unripe oranges (Dominica), agave pith and manchineel fruits (Antigua), nine samples of timbers and a specimen of sponge (Turks and Caicos Islands), and a sample of Mora wood (Trinidad). Products from the West Indies that were being dealt with at the end of the year included sugar-cane press-cake (Barbados); *Canavalia ensiformis* beans (Montserrat), banana meal (Jamaica), and "bay rush" and "unction" roots (Bahamas).

A sample of rope as used by the Government of Bermuda was examined with a view to determining the source of the fibre used in making it.

Enquiries.—Information was supplied relating to fustic and substitutes for fustic to be used as dyes for khaki, also to citrus cultivation, cohune nuts, mineral oil, sugar, sugar-cane wax, locust gum, and the wood of *Mora excelsa*.

Exhibits.—The arrangement of the Jamaica Court has been improved so far as the present exhibits and equipment allow. Mr. Frank Cundall, Secretary to the Permanent Exhibitions Committee, visited the Court and discussed plans for the re-organisation authorised by the Colonial Government. The industrial maps previously exhibited in the Court have been sent to Jamaica for revision. Samples of Jamaica produce were prepared for exhibition at the Bristol International Exhibition, 1914; a smaller collection was sent to an exhibition at Bolton.

A series of cocoa samples, prepared under varying conditions, has been received for exhibition in the Trinidad and Tobago Court. Specimens of rubber-tapping knives used for *Castilloa* trees have been presented by the Director of Agriculture for Trinidad.

The re-arrangement of the exhibits in the Barbados Court has afforded greater prominence to the sugar products.

Samples of St. Lucia produce were prepared for an exhibition at Bolton, and a number of photographs from the St. Lucia Court were lent to the West India Committee for use at the Fourth International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition. A useful series of exhibits was obtained from this exhibition, but the existing show cases do not permit of a satisfactory display of the material now available.

The new exhibits received in the Windward Islands Court comprise: Cotton, arrowroot and other starches, cocoa, ground nuts, and photographs from St. Vincent; and lime products, cocoa, cotton, sugar, arrowroot, spices, coffee, and fruits from St. Lucia.

A loan collection of produce of the Leeward Islands was prepared for exhibition at the Bristol International Exhibition, 1914. The following Presidencies were represented: Dominica, Antigua, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis. Arrangements were also made for the display of products of Dominica and St. Lucia at an exhibition at Bolton. A useful series of exhibits was obtained from the Fourth International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition, but the limited case accommodation has prevented an adequate display of the material now available. Fittings have been made and labels added. The new exhibits include lime products, cocoa, spices, coconut products, rubbers, kola, coffee, and starches from Dominica; sugar, rum, molasses, cotton, limes, coconuts, and fruits from St. Kitts-Nevis; sugar, molasses, cotton, lime products, starches, coconut products, and oil-seeds from Antigua; lime products, cotton, cocoa, papain, and starches from Montserrat; and salt from the Virgin Islands.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Investigations.—A sample of “Vagamani” nuts was identified as *Virola* sp., probably *V. surinamensis*, and information relating to the possibility of finding a commercial outlet for the nuts was supplied.

Enquiries.—Information was supplied relating to machinery for cracking cohune nuts.

Exhibits.—The exhibits received from the Fourth International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition necessitated the re-arrangement of the British Honduras Court; this work is in progress.

Fittings have been designed for a small timber trophy, and new labels added. The new samples received include mahogany and other timbers, chicle, sugar, rum, cocoa, cohune nuts and oil, and fibres.

Further exhibits are still required to render the Court thoroughly representative. Arrangements were made for the display of a sample of British Honduras cohune nuts at the Bristol International Exhibition, 1914, and at an exhibition at Bolton.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Investigations.—Two samples of Para rubber were in good condition, and showed satisfactory preparation, composition and physical properties. Both were in biscuit form and light to dark brown in colour; one from the Issorora Station, contained 93·8 per cent. of caoutchouc, and the other from the Onderneeming Farm, 95·1 per cent. of caoutchouc. A number of paper-making materials from British Guiana were also examined.

Enquiries.—Information was supplied relating to conditions in the balata market.

Exhibits.—The value and appearance of the British Guiana Court has been improved by the addition of the samples received from the Fourth International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition, which include timbers, rubber, rice, sugar, rum, cocoa, coffee, and oils. A map and series of photographs illustrating the sugar, balata, and rubber industries of the Colony were lent to the British Guiana Section of that Exhibition.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Investigations.—A sample of water from the hot springs which are situated all round the coast of Deception Island, South Shetlands, resembled in composition the water from the Strong Sulphur Spring at Harrogate.

Three samples of penguin guano from Cochon Island and two from Kidney Island were examined and valued as manures, and recommendations made as to the preparation of the material for the market.

A specimen of whale rib, representative of large quantities of such bones available in the South Shetlands as a by-product of the whaling industry, was examined and valued.

Enquiries.—Information was supplied relating to the production of oil by the distillation of peat.

Exhibits.—Additions to the Falkland Islands Court include a valuable exhibit of whale products, five species of whale being represented. A series of photographs illustrating the whaling industry has also been added.

AUSTRALIA AND PAPUA.

Investigations.—Three samples of radio-active ores from Mount Painter, South Australia, were found to contain small quantities of the uranium minerals, torbernite and autunite, the richest sample

containing 2·10 per cent. of uranium oxide (U_3O_8). A large number of British and Continental firms interested in the production of radium who were consulted, were of opinion that it would not be feasible to ship ore of this quality to Europe, and that it would have to be concentrated for export.

A number of other minerals from Australia were examined during the year, including osmiridium and kaolin from Tasmania, mica from Queensland, etc.

Three samples of cotton from Western Australia were received, representing the products of plants two years old, grown without irrigation. The sample of Russell cotton was of fairly good strength, but rather shorter and harsher than is usual for cotton of this variety. The Long Staple (Upland) cotton was found to be of satisfactory quality, but slightly stained, and weaker than ordinary American Upland cotton. The third sample, consisting of Sunflower cotton, though slightly deficient in strength, was, on the whole, of better quality than either of the other two. All three samples showed evidence of attack by the pink boll worm (*Gelechia gossypiella*), an insect which has recently caused considerable damage to cotton in Egypt, and advice was given regarding methods of dealing with this pest.

Two samples representing the first Ceara rubber prepared in Papua were examined. In sheet form, the rubber showed satisfactory physical properties, and contained 88·5 per cent. of caoutchouc, expressed on the dry rubber. The scrap sample contained 82·3 per cent. of caoutchouc on the dry rubber.

A sample of the bark of *Daphnandra micrantha*, reputed in Australia to have tonic properties, was investigated, at the suggestion of the Imperial Institute, at Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co.'s laboratories, Dartford (see F. R. Pyman: Transactions of the Chemical Society, 1914, volume 105, page 1679). It yielded three new alkaloids and the results obtained in their chemical and physiological examination were of considerable interest.

Among other plant products dealt with for Australia during the year were the timber of *Melanorrhoea Mainqayi* from Victoria, mallet bark from Western Australia, yacca "gum," fibres for hat-making, etc., and an investigation of *Homeria miniata* was in progress at the close of the year.

Enquiries.—Perhaps the most important Australian enquiry dealt with was that relating to the pearl-shell industry. These shells are largely used for the manufacture of buttons, and though the greater proportion of the Australian output is shipped to London, its ultimate destination has hitherto been largely the factories of Germany and Austria. These outlets being now closed by the War, enquiries were made from a number of commercial experts as to the possibilities of extending the utilisation of these shells in the United Kingdom, and the results were summarised in a memorandum forwarded to the Commonwealth Government. Information was also supplied regarding the marketing in England of zinc, lead, and wolfram ores, hitherto mostly exported to Germany.

Enquiries on a great variety of other subjects concerning the Commonwealth and its resources were also dealt with. Among these were :—Molybdenite, monazite sand, wolfram and bismuth ores, tantalum ore, wattle (mimosa) bark, copra and coconut oil, fibres for various purposes, sugar from the prickly pear, and coconut planting in Norfolk Island.

Exhibits.—The work carried out in the Australian section of the Public Exhibition Galleries during 1914 has been concerned chiefly with the re-arrangement of the present exhibits, and the addition of printed descriptive and other labels and the revision of statistical boards. The exhibits received for the New South Wales Court comprise a valuable collection of gold nuggets, crystallised gold, gems and associated minerals lent by Professor A. Liversidge, F.R.S., samples of wines and hand-specimens of commercial timbers. Exhibits added to the Western Australia Court include leather and leather goods, Jarrah paving blocks, mallet bark and models of fruits. A new show case has been provided for the South Australia Court by the Hampton Cloncurry Mining Company, for the display of specimens of copper ores presented by the Company. Photographs have been added to the Tasmania Court. Sections of gold nuggets, lent by Professor A. Liversidge, F.R.S., have been placed on exhibition in the Papua Court.

The chief need of the Australian section is modernisation. Efforts in this direction would be most effective if carried out as an essential part of a scheme of reorganisation in which a Commonwealth Court, sub-divided according to different classes of products, would replace the present system of separate Courts for the separate States of the Commonwealth. Such an arrangement would more faithfully represent modern conditions, and would in addition bring the present Australian section into line with those of South Africa and Canada, which have already been reorganised on this basis. Such a scheme was approved by the Commonwealth Government, but owing to the war its execution has been deferred.

NEW ZEALAND.

Enquiries.—A memorandum was furnished to the High Commissioner on the distillation and marketing of various essential oils. Recommendations were made as to the selection and cultivation of the plants, and information was supplied as to methods of obtaining the oils and machinery for the purpose, and as to methods of packing the products.

Information was also supplied to enquirers on the subject of New Zealand hemp (*Phormium tenax*), infusorial earth, and the possibility of utilising the “Puriri” wood of New Zealand as a source of khaki dye, an exceptional demand for which arose on the outbreak of the war.

Exhibits.—The exhibits received in the New Zealand Court comprise examples of the boxes and crates used in the export of dairy produce, polished specimens of Kauri resin, and specimens of sinter from Rotomahana, and sections of gold nuggets lent by Prof. Liversidge, F.R.S.

FIJI.

Investigations.—A sample of vetiver oil differed considerably in chemical and physical characteristics from one from the same Colony previously examined (*cf.* Annual Report for 1910 [Cd. 5467–23], p. 33), but it still resembled the “heavy” vetiver oils produced in Europe, rather than the “light” oil distilled in Réunion.

The results of a detailed chemical examination of the oil of *Cymbopogon coloratus* have been published in a paper by Dr. E. Goulding and Mr. J. C. Earl of the Scientific and Technical Research Department Staff (Proceedings of the Chemical Society, 1914, Vol. 30, p. 10).

Two samples of jute were examined.

Enquiries.—A memorandum was furnished to the Government on the manufacture of alcohol from bananas and other products, and as to the use of alcohol as a motor fuel. Information was also supplied as to methods for the preparation of jute.

Exhibits.—The exhibits of Fiji products received from the Fourth International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition, including rubber, oils and oil-seeds, and timbers, have been placed in the Court; coloured statistical diagrams, illustrating the trade of the Colony, have also been added. A series of Fiji products was prepared for exhibition at the Bristol International Exhibition, 1914.

WESTERN PACIFIC.

Investigations.—A sample of resin from the tree *Agathis macrophylla* from the Solomon Islands was found to be of considerable commercial and scientific interest and closely resembled “soft Manila copal.” The resin could probably be used in the manufacture of spirit varnishes as a substitute for “spirit Manila copal.” Recommendations were made as to methods of cleaning and grading the resin, and as to its collection from the trees.

A sample of Manila hemp prepared from plants introduced to the Solomon Islands from the Philippines was of very good quality.

Exhibits.—A new centre case has been installed in the Western Pacific Court, which has also received additional exhibits from Tonga (Friendly Islands). A number of samples of produce of the Solomon Islands were prepared for exhibition at the Bristol International Exhibition, 1914.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Investigations.—Investigations were carried out for and information supplied to Government Departments, commercial firms, and private enquirers relating to resources of the British Isles, the undertaking of manufacturing processes, and markets for various products in the United Kingdom, and allied subjects.

A number of products have been examined, and a variety of information has been supplied, on behalf of British Consuls and representatives in foreign countries, and British companies established, or operating, abroad.

Among products of the United Kingdom which were examined during the year was a sample of *Phormium tenax* (New Zealand hemp) grown in Scotland, which was of promising quality.

The specimens accompanying the reports of the mineral surveyors in the Mozambique Company's territory for 1913 were examined and reported on; those accompanying the reports for 1914 were under examination at the end of the year.

Enquiries.—The enquiries dealt with by the Technical Information Bureau related in a large proportion of cases to the manufacture in the United Kingdom of goods hitherto manufactured in Germany, or to the obtaining of materials, the supplies of which were curtailed by the war. Thus, information was supplied to a large number of enquirers on the subject of potash and potash salts, a firm requiring pure materials for silvering mirrors were put into touch with manufacturers in the United Kingdom, a firm of margarine manufacturers were informed where they could obtain milk cultures; information was supplied as to the manufacture of thymol, paraffinum liquidum, salicylates, and a variety of other chemical and pharmaceutical products. A number of enquiries were received relating to glass manufacture and the difficulty of obtaining various glass goods. Other subjects on which information was supplied were the commercial utilisation of sulphur dioxide and the manufacture of sulphuric acid, soy beans, ground nut crushing, and methods of disinfecting cotton-seed.

Comprehensive memoranda were prepared for the Colonial Office on the subject of wild silks of a number of different kinds, and the possibilities of sericulture in the Colonies and India, as well as on the cultivation of flax for seed in India and the Colonies, and on raw materials available within the Empire for paper making. Information was also supplied to the Colonial Office on esparto grass and on the production of synthetic rubber, to the Board of Agriculture on coconut and palm kernel cakes, to the Board of Trade on palm leaves, and to the Treasury Solicitor on the uses and market value of quebracho wood.

Exhibits.—The United Kingdom is at present represented by the Reference Collection of Economic Products, which is housed in the Upper East Gallery. This is a special representative collection of standard commercial samples, both raw materials and articles in different stages of manufacture being shown. The arrangement of the collection is on lines calculated to render it especially useful to manufacturers and commercial firms interested in Colonial products. Important additions were made to this collection during 1914.

A collection of oils and oil-seeds was lent for purposes of lecture illustration. Samples of rubber were lent to the South African Section of the Fourth International Rubber and Allied Industries Exhibition.

APPENDIX.

PUBLICATIONS ISSUED IN 1914.

The Bulletin of the Imperial Institute is published quarterly by Mr. John Murray, 50a, Albemarle Street, London, price 2s. 6d. (annual subscription 11s. including postage), and may be purchased through any bookseller or from agents in the Colonies and India. The *Bulletin* contains records of the principal investigations conducted for the Colonies and India at the Imperial Institute, and special articles, chiefly relating to progress in tropical agriculture and the industrial utilisation of raw materials (animal, vegetable and mineral).

It is satisfactory to record that the circulation of the *Bulletin* is steadily increasing, whilst the extent to which its contents are constantly quoted by newspapers and periodicals is evidence of the estimation in which it is held as the authoritative source of information on the subjects with which it deals.

Other Publications.—During 1914 the following official publications relating to the work of the Imperial Institute were issued :—

Annual Report on the Work of the Imperial Institute, 1913. (Colonial Reports—Annual, No. 816, Cd. 7622-7.)

Report on the Results of the Mineral Survey of Ceylon, by Professor Dunstan. (Colonial Reports—Miscellaneous, No. 87, Cd. 7175.)

Report on the Results of the Mineral Survey of Southern Nigeria, 1913, by Professor Dunstan. (Colonial Reports—Miscellaneous, No. 89, Cd. 7567.)

Selected Reports from the Scientific and Technical Department, Part V., Oil-seeds, Oils, Fats and Waxes. (Colonial Reports—Miscellaneous, No. 88, Cd. 7260.)

The following is a list of scientific and technical books and papers published during the year by members of the Staff of the Imperial Institute :—

Presidential Address, International Congress of Tropical Agriculture, 1914, by Professor W. R. Dunstan, C.M.G., LL.D., F.R.S. (London : John Bale, Sons and Danielsson, Ltd.)

"Rubber : Its Sources, Cultivation and Preparation," by Harold Brown. (Imperial Institute Handbooks on Tropical Resources. London : John Murray.)

"Volatile Oil from the leaves of *Barosma venusta*," by Dr. E. Goulding and O. D. Roberts. (Transactions of the Chemical Society, 1914, Vol. 105, p. 2613.)

"The Volatile Oil of *Cymbopogon coloratus* from Fiji," by Dr. E. Goulding and J. C. Earl. (Proceedings of the Chemical Society, 1914, Vol. 30, p. 10.)

"The Genetic Classification of Rocks and Ore Deposits," by T. Crook. (Mineralogical Magazine, 1914, Vol. 17, No. 79, p. 55.)

"Monazites from Some New Localities," by S. J. Johnstone. (Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry, 1914, Vol. 33, p. 55.)

"The Viscosity of Rubber Solutions," by Dr. R. Gaunt. (Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry, 1914, Vol. 33, p. 446.)

"The Estimation of Hydrocyanic Acid in Feedingstuffs, and its Occurrence in Millet and Guinea Corn," by Dr. J. R. Furlong. (The Analyst, 1914, Vol. 39, p. 430.)

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
846	Seychelles	1914
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	1914-1915
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915
874	British Guiana	"
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914-1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	"
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914-1915
880	St. Lucia	"
881	East Africa Protectorate	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 883.

NYASALAND.

REPORT FOR 1914–15.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 832.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

April, 1916.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE

BY BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),

23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or

E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd. 8172–9.] Price 1½d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I. FINANCIAL	4
II. TRADE AND SHIPPING	6
III. AGRICULTURE	9
IV. INDUSTRIES AND MINES	13
V. EDUCATION	14
VI. JUDICIAL, POLICE, AND PRISONS	14
VII. POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS	15
VIII. PUBLIC HEALTH	16
IX. COMMUNICATIONS	18
X. PUBLIC WORKS	19
XI. POST AND TELEGRAPHS	20
XII. NATIVE AFFAIRS	20
XIII. GENERAL	21

A map will be found in the Report for 1912-1913, No. 772 [Cd. 7050-13].

No. 883.

NYASALAND.

(For Report for 1913-14 see No. 832.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Zomba, Nyasaland,

14th February, 1916.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit the usual copies of the Statistical Blue Book of the Protectorate for the year 1914-15, together with a Report on it which has been prepared by Mr. A. M. D. Turnbull, Assistant Chief Secretary.

I have, &c.,

G. SMITH,

Governor

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for the Colonies,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1914-15.

I.—FINANCIAL.

REVENUE.

The revenue of the Protectorate from all sources for the year under review was £118,523, as against £124,849 in the preceding year. Of the various heads, Customs (£16,449) showed a decrease of £1,043; Port, Harbour, and Wharf Dues (£6,307) an increase of £351; Native Hut Tax (£71,755) an increase of £1,945; Land Tax (£7,976) a decrease of £109; Licences, Excise, &c. (£5,232) a decrease of £443; Fees of Court or Office, &c. (£1,420) a decrease of £1,734; Post Office (£4,100) a decrease of £2,913; Rents of Government Properties (£3,357) an increase of £292; Interest (£765) a decrease of £149; and Miscellaneous (£1,162) a decrease of £1,858. There was no revenue from Land Sales, as compared with £365 in the previous year.

It will be seen that the revenue decreased under all heads with the exception of Port, Harbour, and Wharf Dues, Native Hut Tax, and Rents.

The Native Hut Tax continues to show a satisfactory increase, which would undoubtedly have been larger than £1,945 but for the state of war existing in North Nyasa District. The number of hut taxes paid rose from 314,579 to 317,308, an increase of 2,729, to which most districts contributed, the only serious deficit being 4,299 taxes in North Nyasa District.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the year, exclusive of loan expenditure, was estimated at £150,364, while the actual expenditure amounted to £143,161. The most important variations from the estimates occurred under the following heads:—Governor and Legislature (£3,283), excess £316; Secretariat (£4,316), saving £763; District Administration (£26,791), saving £978; Treasury (£4,008), saving £770; Judicial and Legal (£2,433), saving £338; Lands (£1,378), saving £355; Prisons and Lunatic Asylum (£2,221), saving £615; Medical (£9,965), saving £1,018; Scientific Commission (£3,466), excess £977; Transport (£2,097), saving £1,001; Public Works Extraordinary (£7,848), saving £1,758; Railway Extension (£18,087), excess £1,787.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

The currency of the Protectorate consists of British coin; gold, silver, and bronze.

There is no note circulation.

The amount of coin in circulation among non-natives is estimated at £89,286.

The total values of specie declared as imports and exports during the past 18 years are as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
Gold	12,400	219,094
Silver	79,870	46,546
Bronze	2,727	21
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£94,997	£265,661
	<hr/>	<hr/>

As explained in the previous report, the great excess of exports over imports is due to the exportation by the banks of the accumulation of coin introduced into the Protectorate by natives on their return from employment in the Transvaal and in Rhodesia, in regard to which no reliable statistics are available, the probability being that gold coin thus introduced into the Protectorate nearly approximates to the value exported by the banks. During the year under review (1914-15) the value of gold thus exported was £38,213.

SAVINGS BANK.

The amount deposited in the Savings Bank during the year ended 31st December, 1914, was £5,629, as compared with £4,331 in 1913. The withdrawals amounted to £2,991, as against £3,692.

One hundred new accounts were opened during the year, whilst 60 where closed. On 31st December, 1914, there were 268 active accounts as compared with 228 on the same date in the preceding year, the average amount standing to the credit of each depositor being £26 17s. 8d. (a total of £7,205) as compared with £20 0s. 8d. (a total of £4,568) at the close of the previous year. European accounts increased from 60 to 85 in number and from £1,880 to £4,689 in total amount.

The rate of interest payable on deposit account is 2½ per cent. per annum, and the interest earned by depositors during the year amounted to £133 11s. 2d.

The Savings Bank has now been in existence for three and a half years, and it is hardly to be expected that the number (now 116) of native depositors will increase until the system has been in force for some years and they begin to realise its benefits and the value of thrift.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

TRADE.

The gross receipts from Customs duties during the year reached the sum of £22,756, or a decrease of £692, as compared with the amount collected in the previous year, and are made up as follows:—

	£
Export duty	35
Import duty and registration fees ..	16,415
Road and river dues	4,232
Wharfage	1,957
Landing charges at Chinde	117
	<hr/>
	£22,756

The external trade (import and export), excluding goods in transit and specie, amounted in value to £363,800 as against £389,935 in the previous year—a decrease of £26,135. Particulars for six years are appended.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1909-10	111,783	97,504
1910-11	193,490	148,176
1911-12	236,628	151,460
1912-13	272,889	174,650
1913-14	189,201	200,734
1914-15	181,387	182,413

Trade naturally suffered from the abnormal conditions consequent on the war, but the net result has been a loss of only £692 in revenue as compared with the previous year.

It is of interest to note that imports from Germany decreased from £17,194 in 1913-14 to £8,451 in 1914-15. On the other hand, exports to that country rose from £8,925 to £24,123. This is all the more remarkable when it is remembered that the trade routes to Germany were open for four months only. The increase is accounted for by the abnormal shipments of tobacco to the German markets. From the 1st April to the 30th September 2,309,800 lbs. of tobacco were exported, and of this quantity Germany took 765,240 lbs., or 33 per cent.

IMPORTS.

The value of goods imported for home consumption (excluding specie) amounted to £181,387, which represents a decrease of £7,814, or 4 per cent., when compared with the previous year.

The decrease is more or less general under all headings, but textiles, which form the bulk of the imports, show a decrease of

£303 only. The prospects during the first four months of the year were very favourable, and the falling off in trade is entirely attributable to the war.

As the result of the growing importance of motor vehicles for transport purposes kerosene and petrol show an increase of £1,475, equal to 71 per cent., and vehicles £1,083, or 24 per cent.

Of the total imports 71 per cent. came from the United Kingdom, 8 per cent. from British possessions, and 21 per cent. from foreign countries.

EXPORTS.

In the year under review the exports show an increase, as compared with the year 1913-14, of 585,477 lbs. in weight, or an increase of 6 per cent., but a decrease in value of £18,389, equal to 9 per cent.

Exports, excluding specie, to the United Kingdom fell from £183,425 to £152,769, and to British possessions from £3,301 to £2,312. Exports to foreign countries rose from £14,008 to £27,332.

As compared with the previous year, the export of tea increased by 50,174 lbs. in weight, and £1,254 (43 per cent.) in value. The export of this product has steadily risen from 42,042 lbs. in 1910-11 to 166,248 lbs. during the period under report.

The exports of cotton increased from 2,401,142 lbs. in 1913-14 to 2,648,508 lbs., a rise of 247,366 lbs., and it is estimated that 200 tons of the season's crop were still unshipped at the end of the year under review.

An abnormal quantity of cotton seed was exported, viz., 1,177,384 lbs., as against 194,255 lbs. in the previous year, but it is not anticipated that this gain will be maintained.

Fibre of all kinds rose from 36,960 lbs. in 1913-14 to 69,644 lbs. in 1914-15.

The exports of tobacco receded from 3,763,014 lbs. to 3,308,948 lbs., a decline of 454,066 lbs. The difficulty experienced in obtaining ocean transport since the outbreak of war is accountable to some extent for this shortage.

Beeswax and groundnuts show decreased exports, the former declining by 13,813 lbs., the latter by 320,285 lbs. The closing of the German markets has affected the export of these two products, especially beeswax of which the bulk was consigned hitherto to Germany, that country having absorbed 73 per cent. of the total quantity exported during the last five years, and 83 per cent. of the shipments in the year under review before the outbreak of hostilities. In the case of groundnuts 44 per cent. of the quantity exported in the past five years went to Germany, and it is probable that a considerable proportion of the shipments consigned to ports in the United Kingdom and France found their way to the German markets.

In the four months of the year 1914-15 preceding the war Germany received 70 per cent. of the groundnuts exported.

The gradual abandonment of coffee cultivation is responsible for a falling off of 92,599 lbs. in the amount exported, and it is of interest to note that the exports of this product have dropped from 2,148,160 lbs. in the year 1899-1900 to 99,477 lbs. in the year now reported on.

Rubber exports have decreased from 65,083 lbs. to 36,707 lbs., mica from 19,248 lbs. to 10,903 lbs., and sesame oil seed from 14,563 lbs. to nil in comparison with the year 1913-14.

Miscellaneous and unclassified goods, which consist principally of stores and textiles, exported from the Protectorate to neighbouring territories, have declined in value from £10,822 to £5,439. This decline is accounted for by the partial closing of certain trade routes owing to the war.

The direction of the export trade was in the following proportions :—To the United Kingdom 84 per cent., to British Possessions one per cent., and to foreign countries 15 per cent.

SHIPPING.

Communication between Port Herald, the principal port of the Protectorate, and Chinde, the ocean outlet in Portuguese East Africa, has again depended on river transport, the traffic having been carried out by the river steamers belonging to the African Lakes Corporation and the British Central Africa Company.

Although the usual difficulties were encountered as the dry season advanced, there was no congestion of traffic. The opening of the railway from Port Herald to Chindio on the Zambesi, which is nearing completion, will, it is hoped, materially increase transport facilities.

With the outbreak of war ocean transport became somewhat disorganised and produce has been detained as a result at Chinde and Beira. At the conclusion of the year a large quantity remained in the hands of growers and merchants, who preferred to await more favourable conditions.

The number of vessels that cleared inwards from Chinde was 139, as against 117 in the previous year. The outward clearances numbered 140 vessels, as compared with 165 vessels in the previous year.

The number of steamers plying on the Zambesi and Shire rivers is 25. Of these vessels 11 are under the British flag and 14 under the Portuguese. The number of vessels on the shipping registers is 147 as against 138 in the year 1913-14. Of these 7 steamers and 28 other vessels are on the Fort Johnston register and ply on Lake Nyasa. All the shipping on Lake Nyasa is now under the British flag, the one German steamer having been destroyed.

The Upper Shire river has ceased to be a navigable waterway for barge traffic, and cargo from the south for Lake ports is now consigned overland to Fort Johnston for shipment there.

III.—AGRICULTURE.

The principal crops grown for export are cotton, tobacco, tea, and rubber. The total acreage under European cultivation amounted to 45,479 as against 55,085 in the previous year. The decrease is mainly accounted for by a reduction in the area under cultivation in the North Nyasa District consequent on the existence of hostilities on the Anglo-German frontier; by the gradual abandonment of Ceara rubber; and the employment of some planters on military service.

The feature of the year has been the extension of the tea-growing industry in the Mlanje District, where the prospects continue to be promising, several consignments of this product having realized the satisfactory price of 1s. per lb. on the home market, which compares favourably with a similar grade of tea from the established estates of the East.

COTTON.

Cotton still maintains its position as the most extensively cultivated crop. Except in the Mlanje district and the Luchenza section of the Blantyre district, where abnormal storms in March and April, 1914, caused much damage, the season proved favourable on the whole. The quality was of a satisfactory standard, considerable improvement being recorded in the cotton produced in the Lower Shire, Ruvo, and Chikwawa areas.

After exhaustive trials it is now recognised that the culture of Egyptian cotton is unprofitable owing to its sensitiveness to climatic variations and susceptibility to bacterial blight.

There was an increasing demand for good quality cotton on the home markets until the commencement of the war, prices averaging from 6d. to 9d. per lb. On the outbreak of hostilities it became unsaleable, but in October, when the market partially reopened, a large proportion of the crop was sold at prices ranging from 4d. to 5d. per lb. Since then no cotton in any quantity has been sold at a higher price than 6½d. per lb., which, with the increased freight and insurance charges, leaves little or no profit to the producer.

The exported crop in bales of 400 lbs. lint, amounted to 6,621 as against 6,003 in the previous year, the area under European cultivation being 26,407 acres as compared with 25,697 in 1913-14.

The local valuation of the crop was £72,068, or an increase of £6,581 on that of the preceding year.

The acreage, under European cultivation, of the crop now approaching harvest is estimated at 24,006 acres.

NATIVE-GROWN COTTON.

It is not anticipated that any large expansion of the native cotton-growing industry can take place until the railway system is extended to Lake Nyasa.

The bulk of the native crop is produced in areas in reasonable proximity to the railway, and more particularly in the Mlanje, Ruo, and Lower Shire districts.

The total native crop for the year under review shows a decrease of 331 tons of seed cotton, which is equivalent to a decrease in lint of 501 bales of 400 lbs. each. The conditions obtaining in the Mlanje and Ruo districts were responsible for this decline. In the former the crop, which was approaching harvest, was practically destroyed by unprecedented storms in March, 1914, whilst in the latter the flooding of the river levels from the same reason caused the gardens to suffer so severely as to render fresh issue of seed necessary.

Government markets for the sale and purchase of native cotton, which were instituted originally in the year 1912-13, were held at various centres from May to November with results which fully justify the system.

The valuation of the native crop compares favourably with that grown on European estates, and it is satisfactory to record that no adverse reports with regard to grading have been received from the brokers during the year.

TOBACCO.

At the commencement of the planting season rain was erratic and scarce in certain parts of the Blantyre and Zomba Districts, where the greater part of this crop is produced, but a great improvement in climatic conditions took place as the season advanced. The leaf proved remarkably free from the diseases encountered in the preceding year.

The Nyasaland crop is grown from seed intended to produce bright, semi-bright or mahogany tobacco. There is great diversity of opinion at present as to the varieties most suitable for cultivation.

The yield per acre in this country gives disappointing results as compared with the United States, fertilisers, owing to high freights, not having been utilised to any extent. Suggestions for the more extensive use of manures obtainable locally were published during the year by the Agricultural Department.

The results of the investigation into the position of Nyasaland tobacco on the home markets were similarly published. These pointed to the fact that tobacco suffered considerably through delay in transit and exposure to sun, frequently arriving in too brittle a condition to handle. This defect will, it is hoped, be remedied to some extent on the opening of the railway from Port Herald to the Zambesi.

The acreage under this crop for the year under review was 9,534 acres as compared with 10,499 in the previous year. The export amounted to 3,308,948 lbs., valued locally at £82,735, being a decrease of 454,066 lbs. in weight and £11,432 in value on the figures for 1913-14. These figures are not a true indication of the relative

production, as owing to high freights and war insurance a considerable quantity remained unexported at the end of the year and it is believed that the actual crop exceeded that of the previous year.

The crop now being harvested is estimated to cover an area of 9,012 acres.

TEA.

The export of tea for the year amounted to 166,248 lbs. as against 116,074 lbs. in the preceding year, the local value being £4,156 or an increase of £1,254. The acreage increased from 2,870 to 3,303.

An interesting development of the tea industry, which has been confined hitherto to south-east Mlanje, is its successful cultivation on the Bandanga estate of the Blantyre and East Africa Company in the Cholo section of the Blantyre district, where the rainfall varies from 65 to 70 inches.

As a result tea is now being planted on an experimental scale in other parts of the country similarly situated as regards rainfall and elevation.

During the whole year there has been a record demand on the home market for the commoner grades of tea, and excellent prices have been obtained.

RUBBER.

With the low prices prevailing during the past year little interest has centred in rubber, and most of the estates in the Shire Highlands have ceased tapping, or abandoned cultivation.

The harvesting of wild rubber has practically ceased, and at the present prices there is little likelihood of any quantity of Ceara and wild rubber being exported from Nyasaland. The Para rubber planted in the West Nyasa district is giving indications of satisfactory development.

The value of the exported crop amounted only to £3,423 as compared with £9,598 in the previous year, showing a decrease of £6,175.

The area under cultivation dropped from 10,562 acres to 5,936.

OTHER PRODUCTS.

The cultivation of coffee, chillies, and capsicums has greatly decreased during the last few years, and although satisfactory prices were obtained there is no indication of any revival in cultivation. This is due to the fact that the chillie and capsicum market is so easily flooded, whilst the coffee plant is too speculative a crop to be attractive.

The exports of coffee amounted in value to £2,487 as compared with £4,802 in the preceding year, whilst the acreage dropped from 1,976 to 1,559.

The native rice crop, which is grown for the local market, amounted to 717 tons.

During the year an attempt was made to encourage the cultivation of ground-nuts by natives in the Lower Shire district, and the measure of success attained indicates the possibility of further developments in this direction.

EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

Namiwawa.—57 acres were planted with various varieties of cotton, and for the first time the cultivation of tobacco was undertaken.

Experiments were also made with various other crops. The buildings erected during the year included a dairy, poultry houses, a tobacco barn, and several cattle kraals.

Nyachipere.—The scheme of planting for the year was designed to secure a final test of the relative values of Nyasaland Upland and Egyptian varieties of cotton, and the result has been conclusively to prove that Egyptian cotton is unsuited for cultivation in the Protectorate and cannot compare even under the most favourable conditions with Nyasaland Upland.

LIVE STOCK.

The precautions against rinderpest adopted in the previous year were continued, and it is satisfactory to record that there has been no sign of the disease in the Protectorate.

Systematic dipping is becoming recognised as a necessity for successful cattle raising and the prevention of tick-borne diseases. Such diseases as occurred during the year were confined for the most part to stock not regularly dipped. The spraying machine, which was erected by the Government in 1913 at Zomba, has been extensively made use of by herd owners in the vicinity, and a marked improvement in the general health of the animals has resulted. It is hoped to extend similar facilities to native cattle owners in the Mombera district with a view to counteracting the mortality caused by East Coast fever which, although absent from the Shire Islands, is endemic in certain parts of the northern districts of the Protectorate.

With a view to the improvement of the local breed of sheep, good representatives of merino and Suffolk breeds were imported by the Government from South Africa.

Demodectic mange, which was first diagnosed in 1912 and was found to have established itself firmly in herds throughout the southern districts of Nyasaland, was made the subject of an energetic campaign by the veterinary authorities, and is being stamped out effectively by the slaughter-out method of all infected stock in conjunction with the regular and systematic dipping of "in-contact animals."

FORESTRY.

The main afforestation work undertaken during the year was, firstly, the extension of the areas of Mlanje cypress (*Widdringtonia whytei*) on the plateau of Zomba and Mlanje mountains with a view to maintaining the supply of timber for local requirements, which at present is cut from the natural forests of this species on Mlanje plateau; and secondly, the establishment of fuel plantations in certain populous native areas to remedy the extensive deforestation which has taken place during the past ten years.

On the Likabula plateau, Mlanje, an area of 25 acres of cypress forest, which was felled during the year, was replanted, and steps were taken to commence the gradual clearing and planting up with cypress of an area of about 150 acres on the Lichenya plateau.

The eucalyptus plantations at Zomba were extended by 30 acres and now aggregate 180 acres, whilst the Mlanje cypress plantations on Zomba plateau cover an area of 280 acres.

In the nurseries at Zomba and Blantyre there were raised 150,000 and 100,000 eucalyptus plants respectively, it having been found that this species is undoubtedly the best fuel tree for Nyasaland.

The eucalyptus plants raised at Blantyre were all issued to natives residing on Crown land in the Soche area of Blantyre district, where it is reported that the natives are realising the importance of planting up small areas in the vicinity of their villages for the production of fuel and poles for their domestic needs.

From the Zomba nursery over 100,000 eucalypts were distributed to natives, whilst at Chiradzulu sub-station of the Blantyre district 40,000 plants were raised for a similar purpose.

Small nurseries for raising plants for issue to natives in selected areas are being opened up at all stations south of Lake Nyasa.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.

Special attention was devoted to insect pests affecting the main crops of Nyasaland and to an investigation of the measures of insect eradication most suited to local conditions in view of the fact that the cost of insecticides is regarded by many as prohibitive to their general use.

IV.—INDUSTRIES AND MINES.

INDUSTRIES.

During the year under review, the trade and business of the Protectorate presented no noticeable features, no new trades having been introduced.

The soap manufactory at Blantyre is still in the experimental stage. Tests are now being made with croton seed, which is indigenous, castor oil and ground-nut seeds having proved unsuitable for making a marketable soap from local products.

MINES.

Apart from the deposits of limestone which are worked to meet local building requirements, operations have been confined exclusively to the mining of mica in the Dedza District and there are no signs of developments in any other direction. The quantity of mica exported during the year amounted to 10,903 lbs., as compared with 19,248 lbs. in 1913-14. The results obtained have proved disappointing up to the present.

V.—EDUCATION.

Education is carried on in the Protectorate by means of the schools which are controlled and maintained by the various Missionary societies, ten of which participated in the annual Government grant of £1,000 in aid of education.

At the end of the year under review the number of Mission schools numbered 2,093 as against 1,952 in the previous year. The total enrolment in these schools was 78,341 boys and 54,547 girls, the average attendance being 50,365 boys and 34,102 girls.

The native rising in January, 1915, has necessarily directed attention to various questions connected with native education. These questions are forming the subject of investigation by the Commission appointed to inquire into the rising.

VI.—JUDICIAL, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

POLICE.

The authorised establishment of the native police on the 31st March, 1915, was 385, an increase of 25 as compared with the previous year. The increase was mainly due to the strengthening of the police units in the districts affected by the native rising. It is encouraging to note that on the outbreak of the rising the force remained loyal and, more particularly at Chiradzulu and Mlanje, faced a difficult situation in a most praiseworthy manner. To the Mlanje police belongs the credit of having tracked down and shot the fugitive leader of the revolt, whilst the Chiradzulu police saved the lives of two Europeans by a timely warning and played a useful part in the operations against the rebels. When it is remembered that at the latter station the European officer was absent at the time, the initiative shown by the native police was the more striking.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of persons tried criminally in the High Court was 146, as against 7 in the previous year. This increase is almost entirely attributable to cases arising out of the native rebellion.

In addition cases involving 116 persons came up from subordinate Courts for confirmation by the High Court, as compared with 67 in 1913-14.

The number of offences reported to the Police or Magistrates was 3,740, as compared with 3,264 in 1913-14.

In connexion with these offences 4,511 persons were apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates, 146 of whom were committed for trial in the High Court.

CIVIL STATISTICS.

The number of civil cases tried in the High Court was 53, as against 88 in 1913-14.

The civil cases tried in District and Sub-District Native Courts tend to increase year by year. This is due to the increasing confidence placed by natives as a whole in the judgments of the magistrates.

PRISONS.

Natives sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months are confined in the Central Prison at Zomba, European prisoners being detained, as a rule, in the Central Prison at Blantyre. Asiatic prisoners serve their sentences in either of these two gaols, according to circumstances.

The issue of a more varied scale of rations to native prisoners, which was commenced during the preceding year, came into full operation in April, 1915. The system has proved eminently satisfactory, having resulted in a general improvement in health and in greater efficiency of the convict labour.

Gardens of native foodstuffs are cultivated by the convicts themselves, who by this means contribute largely to the cost of their maintenance. A similar system is in force at District prisons wherever suitable land is available, and its institution has effected considerable economy.

VII.—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

The number of Europeans resident in the Protectorate, comprising officials and non-officials, was 587 males and 244 females, or a total of 831, as compared with 540 males and 259 females, or a total of 799, in the previous year. The Asiatic population amounted to 410, as against 408 in the preceding year.

The native population is estimated at 1,088,057, being approximately 486,908 males and 602,390 females.

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.

There were 32 European births and 12 deaths during the year, as against 26 and 7 respectively in 1913-14. These figures show a birth-rate of 38·38 and a death-rate of 14·44 per mille.

Six European marriages were celebrated during the year.

Native Christian marriages celebrated under "The Christian Native Marriage Ordinance, 1912," numbered 441.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

GENERAL.

During the year under review the health of the Protectorate has in all respects been satisfactory, and there has been no outbreak of disease in epidemic form.

Owing to the employment of so large a proportion of the staff on purely military duty, there was a falling off in the number of cases treated in 1914 as compared with previous years.

Investigations during the year were confined entirely to sleeping sickness; but here again, owing to their suspension at the end of July in the Marimba, Dedza, South Nyasa, and Upper Shire districts, there has been a considerable decline in the number of cases returned.

This falling off in the returns was further accentuated by the illness in October of the Medical Officer who was engaged in investigating the sleeping sickness area of the Dowa district, so that the cases reported from this locality cover a period of nine months only of continuous investigation.

It would be misleading, therefore, to compare the number of cases of sleeping sickness found in 1914 with previous years, and to base any conclusions thereon as to the progress or otherwise of the disease.

Thirty-nine cases of sleeping sickness were notified during the year, as against 64 in 1913, 46 in 1912, and 38 in 1911.

The distribution of these cases was as follows:—23 in the sleeping sickness area of the Dowa district, 13 in the Marimba district, 1 in the Dedza district, 1 in the South Nyasa district, and 1 from the Mombera district diagnosed at Zomba.

Of the cases diagnosed 25 were males and 14 females, the proportion of approximately two males to one female continuing to be noticeable.

Death has supervened as a rule in from three to five months from the probable date of infection, all the cases having proved fatal.

The Entomologist of the Imperial Bureau of Entomology who arrived in the Protectorate in October, 1914, is engaged at present in carrying out experiments to test the feasibility of eradicating *Glossina*

morsitans within a given area by a direct attack upon the flies themselves, and is also testing the actual effects on the fly of clearing undergrowth. Preventive measures have been limited to the establishment and maintenance of clearings around villages in infected areas, and to educating natives as to the origin and nature of the disease and the precautions which can be taken to reduce the danger of infection.

The number of cases which have been discovered in the Protectorate up to the end of 1914 totalled 211.

Of diseases in the infective group, malaria furnished the largest number of cases, and gave rise to 6·7 per cent. of the total admissions.

In order of frequency, other infective diseases were dysentery, syphilis, gonorrhoea, pneumonia, chicken-pox, whooping cough, and yaws.

Under the head of general diseases, rheumatism accounted for practically all the admissions; rheumatism, muscular rheumatism, myalgia, myositis, fibro-myositis, all being included in this term.

Injuries and ulcers furnished, as usual, a large proportion of the cases treated; and next in order of frequency were digestive and bowel complaints, bronchitis, conjunctivitis, and diseases of the connective tissue.

HEALTH OF EUROPEAN OFFICIALS.

The health of the European officials has not been as satisfactory as in the previous year, seven having been invalided in 1914 as against none in the preceding year.

There were 151 cases treated, with no attendant mortality, as compared with 170 cases and one death in the previous year.

The falling off in the number of cases treated during the year under review was due, not to less sickness, but to the withdrawal of Medical Officers from some of the out-stations for employment with the troops.

Of the total admissions 31 were due to malaria, that is to say, a proportion of about 20 per cent.

HEALTH OF GENERAL EUROPEAN POPULATION.

It must be borne in mind that, as many of these are attended to by mission doctors, only a varying proportion come under the treatment of Medical Officers.

There were 240 cases treated in 1914, as against 305 during the preceding year.

This decrease is due to the same reason as is assigned in the case of European officials, and is not attributable to any actual decrease in sickness.

There were four deaths among the general European population in 1914 as against five in the preceding year.

IX.—COMMUNICATIONS.

RAILWAYS.

The railway from Port Herald to Blantyre, 113½ miles in length, is owned and managed by the Shire Highlands Railway Company. The passenger train service consists of two up and two down trains per week, in addition to which special goods trains are run to meet traffic requirements.

The construction of the Central Africa Railway, which is to connect Port Herald with Chindio on the Zambezi river, in Portuguese East Africa, a distance of 60½ miles, was continued, and at the conclusion of the year was sufficiently advanced to enable it to be used for the carriage of goods. The opening of this line will, it is hoped, remove some of the more pressing transport difficulties which the Protectorate has had to face in the past.

MARINE TRANSPORT.

Up to the outbreak of the war the Government steamers on Lake Nyasa ran regularly in accordance with traffic requirements. On the commencement of hostilities steamer sailings were suspended until the command of the Lake was established by the disablement of the German gunboat "Hermann von Wissmann" on the 14th August, 1914.

ROAD TRANSPORT.

Commercial firms still rely on ox-wagons, hand carts, or native portage, but the Government motor lorry service, which has now been maintained for several years between Zomba and rail-head for the transportation of Government stores and passengers, amply demonstrates the feasibility of mechanical traction on metalled roads.

The Albion lorry ran 8,188 miles during the year, transporting 381 tons of cargo, 205 European and 277 native passengers. The Wolseley lorry, which is no longer serviceable, performed nine journeys only. The necessity for a third lorry had been foreseen but in consequence of the war the manufacturers were unable to supply it.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure on public works was £16,395, as compared with £21,638 in 1913-14. As compared with the previous year, the outlay on new roads and bridges decreased by £4,370 and on machinery by £1,615. On the other hand, the provision for new public buildings increased by £1,359.

BUILDINGS.

The principal works at Zomba comprise an annexe to Government House, the commencement of new offices for the Agricultural Department, and an extension to the lunatic asylum. Offices for the Lands Department and a native hospital were erected at Blantyre. At Port Herald a double-storey house and a new post office were erected.

ROADS.

Loan Works.—The loan of £803,000 granted to the Protectorate by the Imperial Treasury includes a sum of £156,000 for the improvement and extension of road communications in Nyasaland. The road work undertaken in this connection during the year consisted of the completion of the bridging and metalling of the Luchenza-Lichenya road, 22½ miles in length, which places the plantations in south-east Mlanje in communication with Luchenza railway station. These plantations have been increasing steadily in importance as a result of the expansion of the tea industry. The average cost per mile amounted to £249, which was considerably below the estimate. The bridges constructed on the route numbered six, one being of steel, one of timber with steel truss, and the remaining four of timber only.

The total expenditure on loan works amounted to £6,142.

Other Roads.—The ordinary expenditure on road work amounted to £2,437, made up as follows:—

Maintenance and repairs of main roads and bridges ..	£697
Maintenance and repairs of other roads and bridges ..	£974
New roads and bridges	£766

The road running from the Shire river to a point three miles beyond Neno station, a distance of 29 miles, was widened and made fit for cart traffic with the object of improving the means of communication between the plantations around Neno and rail-head.

Considerable reconstruction work was effected on the road between Lunzu and Blantyre.

At Mikalongwe the bridge over the Luchenza river, which was commenced in the preceding year, was completed, thus providing a ready means of access for the plantations in the vicinity to the railway.

A new bridge over the Likangala river on the Zomba-Blantyre macadam road was commenced, but, owing to shortage of staff, the work could not be completed before the close of the year.

The provision of special funds enabled the road between Zomba and Fort Johnston to be kept open for light motor traffic throughout the rainy season.

XI.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

POSTAL.

The postal service consists at present of 19 Post Offices and 7 Sub-Post Offices.

The revenue amounted to £4,100 as compared with £7,012 for the previous year, a decrease of £2,912,

The expenditure was £224 in excess of the previous year, being £5,688 as against £5,464. This increase is due to the cost of the carriage of mails beyond the Protectorate having risen from £572 to £923.

There was a considerable decrease in the number of postal orders issued and paid. This is mainly attributable to the introduction of an inland money order service which is now extensively used by Indian traders in preference to the postal order service.

The total value of money orders issued amounted to £12,811, as against £7,781 in 1913-14. On the other hand, the value of money orders drawn on the Protectorate receded from £6,183 to £3,299, the decrease being due mainly to a fall in sums remitted from the United Kingdom and countries in Europe.

XII.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Native Administration.—The system of native village administration, to which reference was made in the report for the year 1913-14, was further extended during the year under review by its introduction in the Fort Manning area of the Lilongwe district and the Liwonde area of the Upper Shire district.

No difficulties have arisen in carrying out the concentration of scattered collections of huts into organised villages under the charge of a village headman. The system is still in its infancy and progress must necessarily be slow. None the less the results already achieved are encouraging.

Taxation.—Notwithstanding the disturbance which had to be quelled by armed force, the collection of the Native Hut Tax presented no difficulty. Some loss of revenue had to be faced in the North Nyasa district consequent on the existence of hostilities, but in the areas more particularly affected by the rising the adverse effects on taxation were small. Considering the abnormal conditions, the increase of £1,945 in the hut tax revenue on the previous year's figures may be regarded as satisfactory.

XIII.—GENERAL.

The declaration of war between Great Britain and Germany involved the Protectorate in hostilities with German East Africa. The main features of the operations have been the successful attack on the 14th of August, 1914, by H.M.S. "Guendolen," on Sphinxhafen and the disablement of the German gunboat, "Hermann von Wissmann," by which the command of Lake Nyasa was assured; the gallant defence of Karonga against a greatly superior enemy force and its relief on the 9th of September; and, later in the day, the complete defeat of the German forces at Kasoa. Since then it is gratifying to record that, while there have been outpost affairs, the forces of the Protectorate have successfully maintained its defence.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915
874	British Guiana	"
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914-1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	"
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914-1915
880	St. Lucia	"
881	East Africa Protectorate	"
882	Imperial Institute	1914

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 884.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS
PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1914-1915.

(For Report for 1912-1914 see No. 842.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
May, 1916.



LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LIMITED, THE GROVE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, 29, BREAMS BUILDINGS, FETTER LANE, E.C.
and 28, ABINGDON STREET, S.W., and 54, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF; or
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE (SCOTTISH BRANCH),
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,
the United States of America and other Foreign Countries of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LIMITED, LONDON, W.C.

1916.

[Cd. 8172-10]. Price 1½d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I. FINANCIAL	4
II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	5
III. LEGISLATION	7
IV. EDUCATION	8
V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	8
VI. JUDICIAL	9
VII. VITAL STATISTICS	10
VIII. POSTAL SERVICE	11
IX. MILITARY FORCES, &C.	12
X. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	13

No. 884.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

THE ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific,

Suva, Fiji,

7th January, 1916.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I have received from the Officer in charge at Ocean Island, his letter of the 23rd November last, a copy of which he has sent to you direct, forwarding the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Protectorate Annual Report for the year 1914-15.

2. The calls of Messrs Burns, Philp and Company's trunk steamer at Ocean Island, to which reference is made in the section headed "Shipping," have been reduced from twelve to eight annually since the outbreak of war.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

EYRE HUTSON,

Acting High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1914-15.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The total revenue of the Protectorate for the year ended June 30th, 1915, was £16,120 11s. 2d., being a decrease of £26,670 15s. 6d. on the total for the preceding year.

The revenue for the period 1913-14 was unusually large, owing to the transfer to Protectorate Funds of £17,164 5s. 9d. from the Island Native Government chests.

The principal decreases in annual revenue for the year under review were under heads: II.—Native Taxes; and VI.—Royalty on Phosphate.

The total expenditure was £23,522 2s. 5d., being an increase of £1,907 0s. 11d.

The increase is accounted for under heads: II.—Resident Commissioner's Department; IV.—Police and Prisons; VI.—Medical; VIIa.—Special Expenditure, Ocean Island Volunteer Reserve; X.—Public Works Annually Recurrent; XI.—Public Works Extraordinary.

The total revenue and expenditure for the last four years has been as follows:—

				£	s.	d.
1911-12	Revenue ..	..	..	21,331	5	0
	Expenditure ..	..	..	17,965	9	0
1912-13	Revenue ..	..	..	30,272	16	8
	Expenditure ..	..	..	17,952	4	10
1913-14	Revenue ..	..	..	42,791	6	8
	Expenditure ..	..	..	21,615	1	6
1914-15	Revenue ..	..	..	16,120	11	2
	Expenditure ..	..	..	23,522	2	5

Taxation.

The taxes levied in the Protectorate consist of—

- (a) Import Duties on beer, perfumery, wine, spirits, kerosene, and tobacco;
- (b) A royalty, assessed on a tonnage basis, on the phosphate exported from Ocean Island;
- (c) A Capitation Tax of £5 per annum on non-natives resident in the Protectorate;
- (d) Licences for dogs, firearms, trading stations, trading vessels, and trading boats;
- (e) A native land tax, collected in copra from each island according to its wealth and population. In times of hardship caused by drought in the Central Gilberts or by hurricane in the Ellice and Union Islands, the land tax is reduced or remitted.

In view of the fall in the copra market and of the reduced shipments of phosphate from Ocean Island since the beginning of the War, the Protectorate has been faced with a considerable decrease in revenue arising from these sources. To counteract to some extent the depressing influence of the War upon the finances of the Protectorate, some revision of the scale and scope of taxation must be contemplated.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Until the outbreak of the European War, the Jaluit Gesellschaft, established at Butaritari in the Northern Gilberts, held a high place among the trading concerns of the Protectorate. Though the part played by this firm in the importation of German and Austrian goods was preponderant, it was not exclusive. Prints, beads, beer, scents, sewing machines, and many other articles of German or Austrian manufacture, appealing by their cheapness to the trader or by some carefully designed appropriateness to the native, have been disseminated by British firms. The Jaluit Gesellschaft was closed down at the outbreak of war and the sale by other traders of goods manufactured in enemy countries has ceased. At instigation from official quarters and from the Royal Colonial Institute, lists and samples of such goods have been forwarded to England, with a view to their replacement on the market by articles of British make.

Mines.

Ocean Island, the Protectorate Headquarters, is the scene of the operations of the Pacific Phosphate Company. The curious formation of the island offers some hindrances to the working of the phosphate. The acids in the deposits have corroded the coral foundations upon which they are placed, and the phosphate has sunk into the fissures and pockets so formed. Quarrying is thus rendered laborious. The aspect of the worked-out areas, where nothing stands save pinnacles and walls of ragged coral, is sinister. But, although ample ground is still reserved on the island for the support of the natives, the Company has undertaken to replant such barren acres with food-bearing trees. The great depth of the phosphate deposits in the middle of the island, well nigh 300 feet above sea level, renders the working at that place both easy and profitable. The Ocean Island phosphate is of the highest known grade, being of better quality than that found on the neighbouring Island of Nauru, which was until lately under German administration.

There are no mineral or other deposits on the coral atolls of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

The Pacific Phosphate Company possesses the sole mining rights for Ocean Island, paying the natives a fixed sum per acre for such rights. The natives also receive compensation for the removal of coconut trees, while a tonnage royalty on phosphate shipped is paid into a trust fund for their use.

Fisheries.

The waters of the Protectorate teem with sharks, and, until the year 1900, the export of fins was second only to that of copra. This industry has fallen into comparative desuetude, but might be developed, together with the collection of bêche-de-mer, which, in the Protectorate Report for 1896-1900, was mentioned as an article of export. A small variety of bêche-de-mer is known to be plentiful in the lagoon islands of both groups. The natives, however, unless special considerations are offered, will not be at pains to search the seas and laboriously prepare the bêche-de-mer while copra will procure them all the spare money they need.

Agriculture and Native Industries.

The principal crops gathered by the natives are the pandanus fruit and the coconut, which are the staff of life of the Islanders. It is not necessary in this place to give account of the properties of the wonderful coconut. Of the pandanus there are over 150 indigenous varieties recognised by the natives, each bearing a distinct name. The greater number are edible. Though in a lesser degree than the coconut, the uses of this tree are compendious. The fruit is an ingredient of many staple foods; the timber provides beams and posts for building; the root supplies a red dye for costumes; and the leaf is used for thatching, mats, and hats, being of greater durability than the coconut leaf.

Beyond the two trees above-mentioned there is little vegetation of an edible nature in the two groups, save the "Babai" (a species of taro), which is grown in yearly increasing quantities, and the bread-fruit, which is less plentiful. But on Ocean Island are to be found the mummy-apple and the wild almond in great profusion; the mango, the pineapple, and the guava; the lime, the jack-fruit, the banana, and the sweet potato. The affluence of the Banabans (Ocean Islanders), has, however, rendered them careless of the valuable crops with which they alone are privileged.

In the Protectorate Report for 1912-14 mention was made of the proposed experimental fertilisation of coconuts. Government reserves with trees of known age and yield have been marked out, which, pending the report of an expert now analysing soil samples, are being kept under observation. It is proposed to carry out comparative experiments with various combinations of chemicals upon adjoining plots, and to facilitate the acquisition by the native of such fertilisers as prove to be best suited to Island conditions. In the meanwhile natives are being advised to ventilate the roots of their trees by frequent turning of the surface. But in this, as in many other schemes for their physical welfare, their laziness will be the most difficult obstacle to overcome.

Land.

The outright sale of land is prohibited. The Resident Commissioner may consider the advisability of granting leases in parcels of not

more than five acres extent on any one island, for a period not exceeding ninety-nine years. If it appears desirable to the High Commissioner and the Secretary of State, leases of greater area may be allowed.

These conditions have been made for the protection of the native. Land is essentially the property of the individual in the mind of the Islander. In a momentary desire for money he is quite capable of alienating his possessions for a trifle, to the discomfort of his successors and the profit of the adventurer.

There is not a great deal of spare land in the Protectorate, most of the Islands being fully populated. But one or two Islands in the Central Gilberts are under-populated, and the consequence is a class of large landowners who leave to waste a vast quantity of valuable produce. It would be satisfactory to see such surplus lands under the control of some commercial enterprise, which, through organisation, employment, and example, would be an advantage to the whole community.

Shipping.

The trunk steamer of Messrs. Burns, Philp and Company calls bi-monthly at Ocean Island, on its way from Sydney to the Northern Gilberts, where it connects with the firm's inter-island steamer. The Group shipping service consists almost entirely of the circular visits of the inter-island steamer, with occasional appearances of the small vessel of Messrs. On, Chong and Company. The Samoan Trading and Shipping Company keep a small steamer in the Ellice Islands.

Ocean Island is connected with Sydney and Japan by vessels under time or freight charter to the Pacific Phosphate Company, of which some 70 call yearly.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The most important piece of legislation affecting the Protectorate in the period under review has been King's Regulation No. I. of 1915, to govern the recruiting and employment of native labourers of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. The object of this regulation was to bring under a single head the law relating to emigration, recruiting, and employment of native labourers, which has hitherto been dispersed over various enactments.

IV.—EDUCATION.

As stated in the Protectorate Report for 1912-14, education is in the hands of the Protestant Missions of London and Boston, and of

the Catholic Society of the Sacred Heart. The value of Mission effort in this direction cannot be overestimated, but the time has come when a more generous system is desirable. The school training given by Missions tends to produce a small class of moderately accomplished native Bible Teachers—men of high integrity and good influence, but small capacity to instruct in the elements of culture. A system is needed, under which a chance may also be given to those not necessarily professing Christianity or a desire to aid in its propagation. At present it would be impossible, for generic reasons, to institute Government schools; but much can be done by encouraging the Missions to introduce a more practical curriculum into their training establishments. In the year under review negotiations have been opened between Government and Missions with a view to effecting some co-operation in the matter. It is proposed that, with the support of the Government, the following subjects should form part of the school training—

- (a) Simple rules of hygiene;
- (b) Industrial training, blacksmithing, boat repairing and building, etc.;
- (c) Instruction in agriculture;
- (d) Daily instruction in English and arithmetic.

A knowledge of subjects (a) and (d) would not only benefit the native who possessed it, but would be of great value to the medical service of the Protectorate. It is difficult to conceive the disadvantage under which the medical officer at present labours in attempting to teach even the rudiments of dressing and dispensing to youths who start minus any acquaintance with hygiene, English, and arithmetic. This is but a single issue among the many involved in the question of education. The development of the Protectorate and the ever widening scope for native talent on the spot make it a matter of the first importance that supply should correlate to demand, a state of things which can only be brought about by improved methods.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

There are 26 Island Hospitals in the Protectorate under the charge of native “dressers,” who have gained their experience in the Central Hospital and Medical Training School at Tarawa.

Cases allowing of easy treatment are admitted into the Island Hospitals, those of a graver nature being sent to Tarawa headquarters. During the year 1913–14 admissions to the Central Hospital numbered 676. In the period under review the premises were much enlarged, and the number reached 1,367. Major operations were 395, and minor operations 137. To these must be added 497 salvarsan administrations.

All hospitals are at present built on the hut system. The Gilbertese native house, said by Stevenson to be superior to any other in the Pacific, ensures good conditions, but is subject to certain inconveniences.

The construction of a leper asylum upon an isolated islet has been decided.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

Each Island is provided with a male and female prison, under the charge of native warders or wardresses, and supervised by the local native officials and visiting district officers. Long sentence prisoners are transferred to Headquarters gaol at Tarawa, or to Ocean Island. Native law in the Gilbert and Ellice Groups is administered by native Courts under King's Regulation No. VI. of 1912. On Ocean Island the Native Court deals with offences under Native Law committed by inhabitants (Banabans), while offenders among the Pacific Phosphate Company's imported labour are dealt with in the Resident Commissioner's Court.

The following are statistics for the Resident Commissioner's Court, 1914-15 :—

Cases heard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	636
Convictions :—								
Hard labour, 1 week to 3 months	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
" " 3 months to 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Fines, 1s. to 10s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	324
" 10s. to £1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43
Compulsory work, string making	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Floggings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Dismissed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	204
								636

Vicious crime is rare in the Protectorate : crimes of violence are usually committed under the influence of sour coconut-toddy, the drinking of which in a fermented state is punishable with hard labour.

Floggings are infrequent, being administered only in cases of an extremely aggravated or brutal nature, and must take place in the presence of a medical or district officer. The gallows is at Tarawa Gaol. Sentences of death must receive confirmation by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific before their execution. No death sentences were carried into effect during the year 1914-15.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

		1913-14.		1914-15.	
		Births.	Deaths.	Births.	Deaths.
Butaritari	- -	87	56	66	85
Tarawa	- - -	287	210	220	262
Abemama	- - -	517	468	Not available to date.	
Ellice Islands	- -	161	155	"	"
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		1,052	889	—	—
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

In the above table available figures for the year compare unfavourably with those for 1913-14. It was reported last year that the public health of the Protectorate was indifferent, a statement more than corroborated by statistics now to hand. Under the new medical organisation the general outlook had begun to improve, and the birth rate to show a marked increase. Brilliant work was done, and brilliantly repaid by the growing appreciation and confidence of the people. The medical officer had a hold upon the situation. With the outbreak of war and the instant disruption of the shipping service, communication between the Islands, never good, became almost a thing of the past. At the same time, the extraordinary expansion of the Central Hospital at Tarawa, with its immediate calls on the time of the single European doctor in the Gilbert Group and of the native medical practitioner assisting him, rendered it impossible to take advantage even of the exiguous remaining opportunities of visiting outlying Islands; for chances of return were problematical. Shortness of staff under war conditions, may be said to have converted into a very hindrance, therefore, the achievement of that centralisation which, at the cost of so much labour, had begun to assume shape as the nucleus of an efficient system. Densely populated Islands were isolated. The natives forgot, and the local "dressers" were unable to enforce, the simple rules of hygiene and common sense, which only the moral spur of a white medical officer's presence can keep before them. The Gilbert Islander, so trustworthy in matters of government, has elementary notions about the care of his person. Without the possibility of effective supervision the natives reverted into the most vicious habit of primitive races—that of concealing sickness. Tuberculosis, which runs so speedy a course in the system of such peoples, has done its work. Syphilis—spelling sterility, miscarriage, stillbirth, and a high infantile mortality—is ever active; while the utter unenlightenment of the natives in matters of health is a constant sap at all efforts to aid them.

Without the means of communication between islands the work of the medical officer is at every turn frustrate. It is at such times that the crying need of a Protectorate vessel is felt.

There is no malaria in the Protectorate, but the *stegomyia* mosquito abounds in the two groups. Dengue fever sometimes

follows the visits of ships. Dysentery is endemic, but of comparatively rare occurrence among European residents.

During the year there has been an outbreak of typhoid fever on Ocean Island, resulting in the deaths of several Japanese and two Europeans. Immediate measures were taken to ensure the safety of the water supply, with good effect.

Climate, Rainfall, Wind, etc.

The Protectorate stretches across the equator between latitudes 3° north and 10° south. The climate is remarkably equable, being tempered by the vast waters in which the islands lie, and by the continuous westerly breezes which prevail. The temperature is subject to but few variations, ranging between 78° and 80° as a general rule, and on rare occasions falling as low as 68° or rising as high as 95°. Sunstroke is unknown. On Ocean Island Europeans may be seen working or playing bareheaded in the hottest part of the day. The climate is said to be beneficial to Europeans suffering from asthma or pulmonary trouble. The rainfall for the groups during the year has ranged, according to islands, between 120 and 140 inches. The Central Gilberts, which are most susceptible to drought, have been plentifully supplied with water, and the satisfactory rainfall throughout the Protectorate has ensured a good copra harvest. During May and June on Ocean Island, however, an approaching season of drought has been apprehended from certain weather signs known to the native.

VIII.—POSTAL.

The obstacles to an efficient postal service in the Protectorate are the same as those reported last year, in an intensified degree. In this, as in all other matters of government, the absence of a Protectorate vessel is responsible for loss of time and loss of money.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

(a) Ocean Island Volunteer Reserve.

Early in September, 1914, the Ocean Island Volunteer Reserve was established under King's Regulation No. I. of 1909, and proclaimed to be on actual service for the protection of supplies. The original force numbered 61 members, but was shortly afterwards augmented by the enrolment of 40 additional volunteers.

Night guards and patrols were fixed and a state of efficiency and readiness observed which was not allowed to interfere with the daily routine of the island. Look-out during the day was kept by the native police.

Among the Japanese mechanics of the Pacific Phosphate Company a force of 80 was raised, under the command of Dr. Matsuoka, late of the Imperial Japanese Navy, whose object it was to help in the defence of the island in cases of emergency.

After the occupation of Nauru by the Australian Expeditionary Force, midway through November, 1914, followed by the news that the Pacific was clear of enemy ships of war, the active service force was disbanded and members were re-enrolled on a peace footing. A rifle range was established, at which the corps has attained a reasonable efficiency. The arm at present in use is the long Enfield .303 magazineless, 1898 model, but more modern weapons are being procured.

(b) Police.

Under the Native Laws approved in 1894, one or more policemen were appointed in every village by the island authority. They received salary from the island fund and were subject to dismissal by the monthly council. With the merging of the island funds into the Protectorate chest, the island police to the number of some 250 are now clothed and paid on a uniform scale; but their efficiency is precarious. Without a permanent steamer district officers cannot exercise that supervision which is so much needed. When there are more frequent communications again, the plan formerly adopted of training island police at Tarawa for the Gilberts and at Funafuti for the Ellice, can be resumed. The 48 Protectorate police stationed at Ocean Island and Tarawa are distinct from the island constabulary, though often recruited from them. They are appointed by the Resident Commissioner and maintain a high standard of discipline and efficiency. The natives of this Protectorate have a natural aptitude for drill, and show to advantage in all physical exercises. They were complimented highly by the late Commander of the Australian Expeditionary Force on a recent visit to Ocean Island. The introduction of khaki uniforms has added to the smartness of their appearance on parade, denim being retained on all fatigues.

The Protectorate police are armed with obsolete rifles. Now that the range on Ocean Island is open, they are able to go through a course of musketry; some prove themselves tolerable marksmen. Their zeal in the military part of their duties is unbounded, and their devotion to British rule has been the subject of notable comment ever since the hoisting of the flag.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(a) *Roads.*

There are over 200 miles of good road in the Protectorate, varying in breadth from 12 to 30 feet. All roads are made with "riburibu," a reef mud, which dries hard and smooth, forming a durable surface. Motor bicycles are kept by traders and missions, who find the conditions excellent. In the villages the natives are responsible for the cleanliness of their own road frontage. So keen is the popular desire for smartness that in one island it is an offence punishable, under native law, by a fine of 1s. to 5s., to pass by any leaf or refuse which may have fallen upon the fairway.

Roads run without exception the whole length of the Islands, on the lagoon side or, if there is no lagoon, above the western beaches. They existed in many cases before the hoisting of the flag, being the result of mission effort. Their cost of upkeep is *nil*, as they are made and mended by the natives during periods of communal work.

(b) *Communal Work.*

Male natives over the age of sixteen are required to perform 78 days of public work per annum. Exceptions are made in the cases of those who are in training at Central Mission Schools as pastors or teachers, and exemptions are granted to labourers required for the upkeep of Mission buildings, etc., and to servants regularly employed and paid by Europeans. Periods of communal work are arranged by the native authorities to avoid clashing with the pandanus harvest and other recurrent domestic labours of the Islanders. Native women are not constantly employed during such periods, but are expected to make moderate amounts of string, thatch, etc., for public buildings, when required. Communal work is performed under supervision of the magistrate and kaubure (councillors) of the Islands, and comprises the building and repairing of "maneabas" (meeting houses), roads, sea-walls, hospitals, gaols, and other public institutions; the cultivation of babai, or taro; the reclamation and planting of waste lands; and the cleaning or transportation of villages.

(c) *Recruiting.*

Under the provisions of King's Regulation No. 1 of 1915, the Pacific Phosphate Company on Ocean Island recruits from the two groups between 200 and 300 natives yearly. Islands may be closed to recruiting at the discretion of the Resident Commissioner, subject to the covering sanction of the High Commissioner. Ships used by the Company for this work are liable to inspection and approval of the Resident Commissioner, and the recruiting is supervised by the officers in charge of the districts visited. The comfort of the imported labour is well attended to on Ocean Island, where great improvements have lately been made in methods of housing. Food

is good and plentiful. A fully equipped hospital under charge of a medical officer is provided. The contract signed by the labourers entitles them to a return passage to their islands after expiration of the twelve or eighteen months for which they are indentured. The period of indenture may by consent of the contracting parties be extended by eighteen months. Salaries earned by the labourers vary from 20s. to 40s. per mensem, while in special cases natives are in receipt of £3 a month. Obligatory working hours are limited to fifty a week, overtime being paid at the rate of 4d. per hour.

A limited number of Gilbert islanders are recruited for plantation work on Fanning Island.

(d) Water Supply.

In view of the native forecasts of drought the completion of a system of cement cisterns on Ocean Island during a time of rain has been opportune. Five new cisterns have been constructed of a total capacity of about 90,000 gallons, raising the water reserve of the Government station to an approximate figure of 150,000 gallons. But this is still a dangerously small reserve for the use of the English Government staff, together with the permanent police force of 30, with wives and families, and from 20 to 50 prisoners.

Periods of drought may last for several years on Ocean Island. The natives have been encouraged to spend on tanks part of the money received from the Pacific Phosphate Company for their lands, but they rely chiefly for their water supply on the pools formed by percolation in the enormous caves, often several miles in length, with which the Island is riddled. But as droughts continue this natural supply is drained to the inmost recesses, becoming daily more difficult of access. It has been known to fail altogether.

Since the Pacific Phosphate Company came to the island the natives are, however, secured against total failure of supply; for the Company has erected condensing plant, and water may be bought in times of drought at moderate rates.

It has been considered that a part of the Banaban Phosphate royalty (referred to under heading "Mines") might profitably be spent in the construction of catchment areas and cisterns capable of supporting the natives through long droughts. Such a centralisation would ensure not only continuity of supply, but that easy supervision so necessary in tropical countries for the prevention of epidemics.

Fairly good water is found in the Group Islands at a few feet below the surface. The Central Gilberts are subject to drought, and at such times the well water becomes brackish and unpleasant to the taste. The question of reservoir construction in those Islands is one worthy of serious consideration.

(e) Trade and Trade Prospects.

It has been a good copra year, 5,000 tons having been exported as against 4,500 tons in the preceding year, though the markets have

suffered a natural depression on account of the war. Difficulty was caused during the year by the formation, among the natives of several islands, of a boycott against certain trading firms. Ring-leaders have, however, abated their attitude, and a great quantity of copra has been produced and sold at prices favourable to the natives. It is hoped that improved methods of coconut culture will increase the output. A ready market for additional produce may be counted on in view of the entry of two new trading firms into the Gilbert Islands.

The export of phosphate from Ocean Island has been affected by the war, the total tonnage having been about 78,000 tons less than for the period 1913-14. The fall has been caused in part by the difficulty of obtaining ships, but chiefly by the closure of the large German market. There is no reason for believing that the depression will outlast the war conditions. Within the delimited areas acquired by the Company on Ocean Island there is sufficient phosphate for many years to come, and, provided a market, there should be no retrogression in this important industry.

(f) Local conditions for the European.

Little has heretofore been said by which a prospective European visitor might be guided in matters of kit, cost of living, servants, and other domestic matters. For a newly-appointed Government officer it would be well to remember that, although many necessities are obtainable at the Pacific Phosphate Company's Ocean Island store, the following indispensable articles should be brought from England:—A dress suit for tropical wear; a good supply of white dinner jackets; several pairs of strong walking shoes; one or two light flannel suits for westerly weather; a plentiful stock of cotton shirts (cellular recommended); and a serviceable raincoat (rubber mixtures to be avoided). The last is invaluable to one who will be obliged to make landings through the groups at all hours and seasons; a good seaman's oilskin is recommended.

The living expenses of a young single official, to whom quarters are supplied by Government, would amount to about £15 a month. This sum would cover the cost of one servant at 20s. per month and rations, but would be exclusive of all luxuries. Total living expenses of a married couple, with modest establishment, can be covered by £25 per mensem.

The Gilbert Islander is not a model domestic servant; his talents are adapted to sterner conditions. Though he is faithful and shows much desire to please, his forgetfulness and lack of method seldom prove amenable to teaching. As a policeman, under conditions of strict discipline, he shines: without unremitting "nursing" he is a failure. The Ellice boy, who is much inferior to the Gilbertese in all things that really matter, makes a better house servant. He springs, not, as the Gilbertese, from a warlike stock, but from a peace-loving race. He is quicker to learn than a Gilbert Islander, and also

makes an excellent policeman, but his chief talents are domestic. As a personal servant he is ready, hard-working and retentive, but too often dishonest. Cases of dishonesty among Gilbert houseboys are exceedingly rare.

Rates of pay to native servants vary from 10s. to 40s. a month, according to age. Rations of rice, sugar, and navy bread are usually supplied by the employer.

The Pacific Phosphate Company is the only considerable employer of Europeans in the Protectorate. All white employés are housed and fed at the charge of the company, who also provide a cricket ground, tennis court, billiard and recreation room, and a small circulating library for their use. A theatre and a picture palace are run under the auspices of private members of the company's staff on Ocean Island.

(g) *The War.*

At such a time it is due to the officers of the Protectorate to record that, of those who were in the service at the outbreak of war, none failed to signify an immediate willingness to serve at the front, save those who were plainly disqualified by age. But shortness of staff rendered it quite impossible to release any official from the exigent duties of the service. Good use of public funds has, however, been made in the despatch of six European volunteers from Ocean Island to the New Zealand Forces, while many members of the Pacific Phosphate Company's staff have left in a private capacity to enlist in the Expeditionary Forces of the Commonwealth.

To those who must remain to carry on the work of government the magnificent spirit displayed by the native community is a matter of consolation and pride. It remains to be worthy of the privilege of guiding this folk. The enthusiasm for the British cause; the breathless interest; the countless private applications to "fight for King George"; the united voices of entire Islands to leave for the War: the tense atmosphere of loyalty—these are signs of something more generous and more lasting than even the ancient fighting spirit of the race. They are proofs of an ingrained Imperial sense.

It is difficult to explain to such a people the prudential reasons which bind both governed and governing to less glorious avocations at such a moment. But they have not failed to grasp at the truth that in this time the Empire may be well served in peaceful ways, by internal discipline and by unquestioning obedience to authority. The recalcitrant are silenced by a reminder of the Empire's need; the people's passionate enthusiasm finds vent in a notable docility; the calls to their generosity on behalf of distress are nobly answered. The Banaban community of 400 souls has voted the sum of £1,000 to the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund, from the money held in trust for them by the Government. There is no island in the Group but has responded according to its resources. During the year nearly £3,000 has been collected in the Protectorate for the Fund, of which by far the greater part has been contributed by the natives.

(i) *The Native Official.*

The confidence shown in British rule is inspiring. It is sometimes even embarrassing; for it is difficult to live up to the standard of wisdom which the natives ascribe to Government officers. In the Protectorate Report for last year it was said that the natives possessed a talent for being fairly governed, but such words do them small justice. They possess a talent for governing. There possibly exists nowhere else in the world a native assembly to whom the reins of administration may be so safely left as to the Gilbert and Ellice Island Councils.

On the hoisting of the flag twenty-three years ago, the Islanders were guaranteed the integrity of their Assemblies. The Native Laws which are authorised by King's Regulation, have since that date been administered on each Island by bodies among whose members each Island is represented. The district officer is present at the more important Court cases, but only in an advisory capacity. Land questions are dealt with exclusively by the natives.

It is among the older Native Government officials that the finest character of the Islander is displayed. These are men of extraordinary breadth of character, who, in some cases, for two decades, in the face of superstition, conservatism, private feuds, and personal jealousies, have kept a sure hand upon the people, teaching them by sheer dominance of personality and excellence of example the wider ideas of public expediency which have now most assuredly gained a place in the spirit of the Islanders. Without the aid of these men the British Government would not have the prestige it at present enjoys in the Protectorate. It is they who have imbibed and transmitted the spirit of a system, infusing their own confidence into the populace; and it may be regarded as no mean recommendation to the system that it should have possessed the qualities to attract the sympathies of such men.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

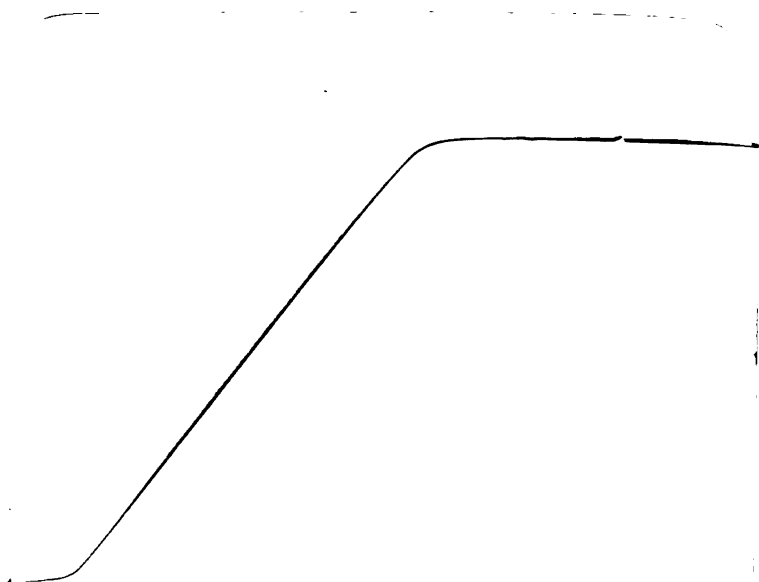
The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914-1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914-1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914-1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
871	Barbados	"
872	Falkland Islands	1914
873	Uganda	1914-1915
874	British Guiana	"
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914-1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	"
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914-1915
880	St. Lucia	"
881	East Africa Protectorate	"
882	Imperial Institute	1914
883	Nyasaland	1914-1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
wils no.855-884
325.42 G792c

Great Britain. Colonial Office.
Colonial reports - annual.



3 1951 002 225 429 6



Minnesota Library Access Center

9ZAR03D01S01TDT